



# WHAT'S ON NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Weeks 8/9 Term 2 Week 1 (21 March-25 April)

## IMPORTANT NOTICES

### Nominations for the Merici College Board

The Merici College School Board performs a dual role: Governance of the College as well as the Parents & Friends Association of Merici. Due to a resignation, a position is now available on the Board. The appointment is for a 2-year period with an option to re-nominate for a further 2 periods, 6 years in total. For the Board to act in an effective manner we would especially like parents with experience in the Law to apply, although all parents are encouraged to nominate.

Any interested parent, who has the desire to commit to becoming part of the Merici College School Board, should contact the Returning Officer [lauren.frankham@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:lauren.frankham@merici.act.edu.au), to obtain the nomination form and details of the process involved.

Nominations close Monday 13 May 2021.

*Jackie Keighery – Board Chair*

### New Uniform Transition

In 2020 Merici College began the transition to a new summer uniform, moving from a light blue to a tartan dress.

While initially we advertised that the period of transition would be 2 years, the College Executive (in conjunction with the College Board) has agreed to extend this transition to 3 years. This will allow students who began in Year 7 in 2019 (the year before the new uniform implementation) to complete Year 10 while still wearing the blue dress should they choose to. From 2023 all students in summer must wear the tartan dress or the shirt/shorts option.

### Blazers

New blazers are available from our College uniform shop. Previously purchased blazers from the former manufacturer will still be permitted to be worn through to the end of 2024. However incoming Year 7 students are required to purchase the new styled PSW blazer.

### Respectful Relationships within our Community

At Merici College we pride ourselves on fostering and nurturing respectful behaviours and relationships in our community. As such, we request that parents be mindful of the appropriate conduct towards teachers, staff, parents and students when interacting face-to-face or via other forms of communication. Appropriate behaviour and tone is clearly described in the Catholic Education Parent Commitment Agreement found [here](#).

We would also like to remind parents that if you would like to meet with your daughter's teacher/s, prior meeting arrangements and appointments must be made.

## Student Sign Out Process

We would like to remind parents/carers that should you need to sign your daughter out, it is a requirement that an adult comes into Students Services to do this. A phone call is not sufficient.

## WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### Bridge Restaurant (Wednesday 24 March 12.30pm)

The Bridge Restaurant will be open for lunch on Wednesday 24 March 12.30pm. Please telephone our Hospitality team on 6243 4130 or email [bridge@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:bridge@merici.act.edu.au) to make your booking.

### Parent-Student-Teacher Interviews - Online Bookings open Monday 22 March

Parent-Teacher-Student interviews will be held in Semester 1 on Monday 29 March and Wednesday 31 March 2021 from 4:00pm – 6:30pm. 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.

Interviews on Monday 29 March will be conducted face-to-face in the Merici Auditorium. If you would like to speak to your daughter's teachers here at school, please book the interviews for Monday evening.

Interviews on Wednesday 31 March will be conducted online via Microsoft Teams, through the PTO login. If meeting your daughter's teachers suits to do so from home or your workplace, please book the interviews for Wednesday evening. Instructions for how to use this service will be sent to families next week via a 'How to Guide'. If you wish to meet the teachers online, you will need to download the free Microsoft Teams app on either a mobile device, laptop or desktop computer.

These interviews are a mutually beneficial opportunity for parents to discuss their daughter's progress with the class room teachers. Including your daughter in the interview helps promote independent learning.

If your daughter's teacher is requesting an interview with you, in regard to either Achievement or Application, you will receive an email indicating this. Please note: a teacher may request an interview both to commend a student's performance as well as discuss any concerns about progress. If teachers do not request an interview with you, you are still encouraged to make appointments with any teacher to discuss your daughter's progress.

### Parent Teacher On-Line (PTO) Booking Instructions:

You will be using the "Parent Teacher On-Line" (PTO) web-based software for these interviews. This will allow you to book the interview times that suit you from any internet-connected computer or from your smartphone. If you wish to book appointments from your mobile you will need to download the free PTO app from either the apple app store or the google play store. Instructions on how to use this app and the relevant school code are available from the PTO login screen.

You will have access to the Parent Teacher On-Line (PTO) system from Monday 22 March 2021. If you currently have an email address lodged with the College you will be able to:

- Go to the school's home page – [www.merici.act.edu.au](http://www.merici.act.edu.au)
- Click the PTO icon as displayed
- You will then be directed to the Merici PTO web site
- Enter your surname and either obtain your PIN/enter your PIN



(NB - First time access will be to obtain your pin. Pins are generated and do not remain the same from the previous semester).

Once you have requested your pin an email will be sent to the nominated family email address. This email contains a secure link that when clicked will log you straight into PTO for you to make your bookings. If you do not receive an email, please contact the College as we may have an incorrect email address for you.

For those families where the College has no current family email address on file, we would appreciate it if you could contact the College and provide a family email contact if at all possible.

Full instructions are provided to you after log in. Please note the following points:

- When you log on, the system displays only your daughter's teachers.
- Every parent/guardian receives a login and pin on request – you can make a booking using one as a family booking or both if you want individual bookings.
- You will only see timeslots that are available at the time you are using the system. As timeslots are booked for your allocated teachers, those timeslots are no longer displayed as available.
- Please leave 6 minutes between appointments to allow for movement time.
- When you have made your booking please print a record of it. You can also log in and change your booking at a later date.
- Please note that bookings cannot be made after 8:00am on the day of the interview.
- If there are no timeslots available for an interview, please use the option requesting the teacher to contact you or contact them directly.
- If you encounter any problems using PTO, please notify the College on 6243 4100.

*"Because we are using an online service for the booking of these interviews we will disclose the student's name, parent's name and teacher's name to the service provider. The information will be provided to the service provider in an encrypted and secure manner and will only be used to arrange the booking of these student/parent/teacher interviews. If you have any queries about this matter, please feel free to contact the Principal."*

#### **Easter Reflection (Thursday 1 April)**

All staff and students will have the opportunity to reflect on the significance of Easter on Thursday 1 April (Period 5 – 1.24pm).

#### **Canteen and iC Closure (Thursday 1 April)**

Please note that the Canteen will be closed on the last day of Term 1, Thursday 1 April. The iC will also be closed from 3.30pm.

### **Term 1 ends (Thursday 1 April)**

We wish all our students and families a very happy and safe Easter and holiday break.

### **Term 2 begins for Students – Tuesday 20 April**

Please note that Term 2 commences on Tuesday 20 April as all Catholic Education (CE) staff members are required to attend a full day of CE Catalyst professional development on Monday 19 April.

### **Winter Uniform – Term 2**

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.

### **Merici College Enrolling Now 2022 and Beyond Campaign (April/May 2021)**

Please click [here](#) 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 Days – Thursday 22 April, Friday 23 April, Thursday 6 May

Talk and Tour – Saturday 27 March, 1 May

Open Day – Wednesday 28 April 2-4pm and 5.30-7.30pm (Principal's Address and Year 7 Information Session: 3-4pm, 6.45pm-7.30pm)

Year 11 2022 Information Night – Tuesday 4 May 5.00pm-6.30pm

#### **School Tours:**

On Wednesday 21 April (Week 1 Term 2) a meeting and practical tours will be held with students interested in conducting school tours on our Open Day. A permission note will also be given out to the students for return to Student Services. The permission note can be found here, <http://merici.college/go/openday-permission>. 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 [student.info@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:student.info@merici.act.edu.au). Students are required to wear full school uniform on the day and afternoon refreshments will be provided.

## School Photos

School photos will take place on 30 April and Wednesday 5 May 2021:

- **Friday 30 April:** Individual portraits, family/siblings, PC classes, Student Leadership Team.
- **Wednesday 5 May:** Year 12 class photo, House photos, absentee Day 1 individual portrait photos.

Students are required to wear full Winter uniform. Please click [here](#) to find information for online ordering from AdvancedLife Photography. Order Envelopes will also be distributed to students in Week 9, Term 1 as an alternative to online ordering. These envelopes contain comprehensive information about packages available and instructions on methods of ordering.

Please contact Ms Amy Connellan, Head of Mission and Community at [amy.connellan@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:amy.connellan@merici.act.edu.au) if you have any questions regarding school photos.

## YEAR 7, 8 AND 9 NEWS

### 2021 NAPLAN Testing

ACT schools will participate in NAPLAN Online testing from 11-21 May 2021.

ACT schools undertaking NAPLAN Online this year will participate in a practice/familiarisation test between 22 March and 23 April 2021. The practice test does not assess student performance and has been developed to replace one of the familiarisation activities that schools have traditionally undertaken. Students in Years 7 and 9 will complete a practice test on Monday 29th March (week 9) so that they have familiarity with the requirements of the assessment.

Students will be completing the tests on their own devices and are required to download the lockdown browser onto their devices in readiness for the assessments. Students will be instructed on how to do this at school but are encouraged to do at home before the practice test on Monday 29th March. The software can be accessed via the Naplan Icon on Moodle or via the following link:

<https://www.assessform.edu.au/layouts/Technology/LockedDownBrowser.aspx>. They will also need headphones to complete the practice test.

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.

NAPLAN Online allows for tailored testing. This means that student are presented with sets of questions based on their performance during the test. This model provides students with the opportunity to better demonstrate their range of literacy and numeracy skills and it is more engaging for students. Further information explaining tailored testing can be found at <https://bit.ly/2PgG7rL>.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss your daughter's participation in this event, please contact Mrs Kate Durham – Head of Junior School.

Further information on NAPLAN Online, including the public demonstration site, is available at [www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online](http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online).

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

### **Year 12 University Admissions Presentation for Parents (Tuesday 23 March 5.30pm)**

On Monday 22 March there will be a Year 12 University Admissions Presentation to all Year 12 students during their flex lesson. A similar presentation has been scheduled for Tuesday 23 March 5.30pm in the CRLC for parents. If you wish to attend please email Mrs McDonnell at [kerry.mcdonnell@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:kerry.mcdonnell@merici.act.edu.au).

## **CAREERS NEWS**

Please follow <http://merici.college/go/careers-newsletter> to find the latest Careers newsletter and information.

## **IB NEWS**

### **Year 10 Personal Project Update**

The Year 10s continue to work on their Personal Projects; they have been tasked to create an action plan and success criteria for their product/outcome. Students are to create 'criteria' statements that describe the attributes they want their completed project to have. They must explain why they have chosen to include such criteria and ensure they refer to their research to back themselves up.

The first Personal Project drop - session was held on Tuesday in Week 7 during lunchtime with a number of students dropping by to see Mrs Fairfax and Ms McNamara to discuss their projects. These sessions will continue to run every Tuesday (Week A). In addition to assistance from their supervisor these sessions aim to provide extra support for students as they work to complete their Personal Project.

### **IB Knitting Project**

Thank you for your support for our knitting project, we all are grateful and appreciate your help. It's wonderful to have the wider community involved in giving to those in need.

To donate your knitted squares (30x30), rabbit toys, balls or teddy bears, please place them into the box at Student Services. It will be labelled 'Knitting Project'. If you can crochet, please feel free to crochet the toys.

Here are the links to the patterns for those who may not have seen them:

><https://www.brescia.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Knitted-stress-balls-pattern.pdf> - This link shows many different patterns for the balls (including patterns for crochet).

><https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/knitted-ball-2> - This links to the pattern for knitted ball toys (this is the pattern that we are using at school with our students).

><https://www.redcross.org.au/getmedia/d79cb49d-c33f-4e02-88d1-f5b398086e90/TraumaTeddy-Knitting-Pattern-and-Information-2020-final.pdf.aspx> - This link is for the pattern for the trauma teddies.

><https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6Kgi6ns38c> - This YouTube link shows you how to make the bunny toy from a square (very simple and easy to do).



[How to Knit a BUNNY from a SQUARE | Easy for Beginning Knitters](#)  
SUBSCRIBE ON YOUTUBE b : <http://bit.ly/subscribe-SK> GET FREEBIES - JOIN MAILING LIST b : <http://bit.ly/sk-join2> WEBSITE INSTRUCTIONS b : <https://www.studioknitsf.com/how-to-knit-a-bunny-from-a-square-for-easter/>  
Knit a toy Bunny from a Square from my easy knit stitch pattern! From just a knitted square, you will enjoy making a stuffed softie ...  
[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

Are you thinking of pursuing the IB Diploma in Years 11 and 12? Find out more at our online information session.

The session will explain the format of the IB Diploma, go through how the courses are structured and how it compares with our local curriculum BSSS model for senior study. There will be a presentation made by Natalie Fairfax, Head of IB and then time at the end for questions.



### Zoom Meeting Details:

Merici College is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: IB Diploma Information Session

Time: Mar 23, 2021 06:00 PM Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88281942707?pwd=QWl1V3U5L2w1aVlkR2dhKzVwZ3pyZz09>

Meeting ID: 882 8194 2707

Passcode: 103083

### IB DP – Year 12 Students

Key dates:

Event	Date
TOK – Intensive Essay Question Workshop	24 March
Psychology IA Draft	30 March

## LANGUAGES NEWS

### Canberra Academy of Languages

The Canberra Academy of Languages will hold an online information evening via Google Meet from 6 pm on **Monday 29 March 2021** about programs for Term 2 of 2021 and programs for 2022. To receive a link for the meeting, interested participants should email [info@cal.act.edu.au](mailto:info@cal.act.edu.au).



Discussion will include information on learning languages in Years 11-12, receiving credit for languages studies towards the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate and towards the ATAR; and early access options for students in Years 9 and 10.

Students who commence studies in Term 2 of this year may qualify with a major in their chosen language by the end of next year. Courses are offered in French, German, Japanese, Spanish and Tamil in 2021. In 2022, we may also run programs for Arabic, Indonesian, Hindi, Italian and Korean if there are sufficient numbers of students interested.

### Italian, Spanish and Chinese Magazines in the iC

The school library and the LOTE Department have subscribed to Italian, Spanish and Chinese magazines. They are located on the magazine shelves in the iC. Students can loan these magazines out for one week. The school is working to increase our collection of Spanish, Italian, Chinese and French reading material in the library.



## SCIENCE NEWS

### Calling all budding scientists!

The 2021 Big Science Competition will be held in May this year for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. The competition will be online, and consists of 30 multiple choice questions to be answered in 50 minutes.

This year, the competition is free, to celebrate the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Australian Science Innovations – the company that runs the Big Science Competition and the Science Olympiads.

Students must register themselves for the competition, at the following link: <https://www.asi.edu.au/programs/big-science-competition/what-is-the-big-science-competition/>



Entry is free. Competition will be run at school 17-28 May. For further information on the competition, including if you would like to try some past papers, please see or email Dr White ([kathryn.white@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:kathryn.white@merici.act.edu.au)).

### Makerspace Club

Makerspace club is resuming in Week 7 Wednesday lunch times in the Makerspace. A series of short projects 5-6 weeks in length throughout the year. First project is Introduction to 3D printing. Open to all students.



## CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Art from the Heart Family Workshop (Wednesday 24 March 5.30pm-8.00pm FULLY BOOKED)  
Additional Night (Wednesday 12 May)

The Art Department to be held on Wednesday 24 March is fully booked. Please note that an additional evening has been organised to be held on Wednesday 12 May. The workshop will commence at 5.30pm and conclude at approximately 8.00pm. Refreshments will be served. Unfortunately, due to limited capacity, siblings are not able to attend.

Please email [ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au) by Wednesday 5 May if you would like to participate (please indicate number of people and special dietary requirements). For more information, please contact Laura Pearce, Creative and Performing Arts Coordinator on email [laura.pearce@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:laura.pearce@merici.act.edu.au).

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### Merici College Youth Minister

Hi everyone, my name is Maddi Green and I am your Youth Minister. I graduated from Merici College in 2018 and I am thrilled to be coming back to Merici and begin guiding each and everyone of you on your faith journey.

Three fun facts:

- I love to travel but COVID-19 is keeping me in Australia.
- I have a camera in my hand.
- When I was a Merici girl, I was House captain (can you guess what House?)

I look forward to seeing you in the corridors, guiding you in your classrooms and leading the Merici community in prayer, faith and service.

*Maddi Green*



## CHRISTIAN SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM

### Year 7 Lenten Program

A friendly reminder to Year 7 students of their Year 7 Christian Service Learning project. Students have been instructed to commit to volunteering for 10 hours serving people in need and learn from the experience about the gift of caring for others. Students are encouraged to complete these hours in their home, local neighbourhood or Merici College. If your daughter(s) is/are volunteering beyond the home and Merici College, please ensure you are aware of this and we advise parent supervision. We are encouraging your daughter(s) to complete their hours as much within the home as possible due to COVID-19.

Students are reminded to gradually complete their journals over the period of Lent; registering the hours in service and reflecting on the experience through responding to various questions.

The completed hardcopy journal needs to be submitted to their relevant RE Teachers by **Tuesday 20 April** (Week 1, Term 2). If students have misplaced their journal they need to contact their Religious Education teacher.

Please contact Ms Amy Connellan, Head of Mission and Community at [amy.connellan@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:amy.connellan@merici.act.edu.au) if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support of our Christian Service Learning Program at Merici College.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

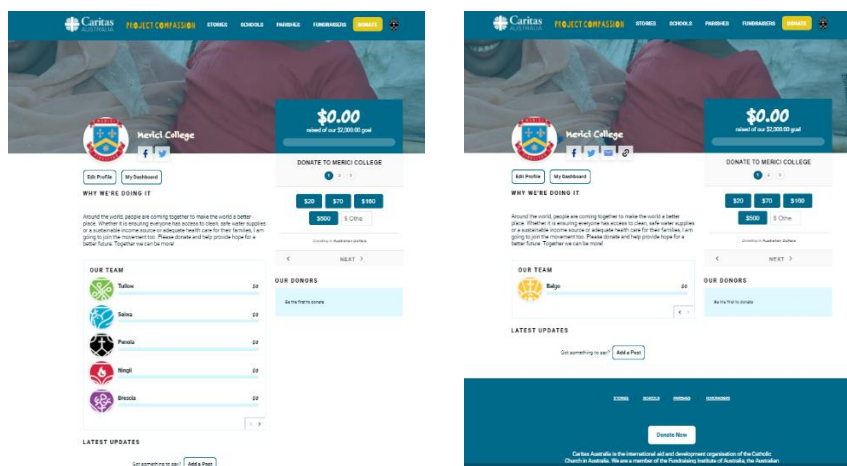
### Project Compassion - supporting Caritas

*“Aspire not to have more, but to be more.” – Saint Oscar Romero*

*‘This lent, join millions of Australians who want to end poverty and injustice in our world.’ (Caritas Australia, 2021).*

Merici College is once again supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal (Wednesday 17 Feb. - Wednesday 31 March). Students have been asked to donate their spare change. As a community, we have already raised over \$2000, a big thank you to all those who have contributed!

This year, Merici College has its own fundraising page on Caritas website where students and families are invited to donate to their individual Houses <https://lent.caritas.org.au/t/mericicollege> (click on the arrow under the House at the bottom of the first page to take you to the next page). Students can also access QR codes for their individual House collections and are also invited to contribute cash to their individual Pastoral class Project Compassion collection box. Various activities and stalls will run during the period of Lent to also support Project Compassion.



Each Friday, ongoing House tallies will be displayed to students. College Cup points will be awarded after the final collection on Wednesday 31 March. 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/>. If you have any questions regarding the Merici College Project Compassion campaign, please contact Amy Connellan, Head of Mission and Community at [amy.connellan@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:amy.connellan@merici.act.edu.au).

## **Project Compassion Bake Sale**

A big thank you to the students (many from the Social Justice Group), parents, carers and staff who baked and created wonderful treats and gifts for the Caritas Bake Sale at the swimming carnival. Nearly \$400 was raised on the day and this money will be added to the overall Project Compassion tallies (online – see below).

## **Vinnies – Knock On Effect!**

Vinnies launched a brand-new campaign, the Vinnies Knock On Effect. Traditionally, Merici students have volunteered their time to assist with fundraising for the Annual Doorknock Appeal, however, due to COVID this is not running again this year. The main aim of the Vinnies Knock On Effect is to educate the public about the good works of the Society. Vinnies delivers many programs and services across the region to support people experiencing disadvantage. However, many people still largely know Vinnies for their shops! The Knock On Effect is being held during the month of March, however, Merici will hold a Knock On Effect event in Term 2 to coincide with our Vinnies Winter Appeal and funds raised will go towards the Vinnies Winter Appeal.

## **FAITH FORMATION**

### **Reflection Evenings - Save the Date!**

We are excited to be hosting Merici Reflection Evenings this year. Parents, guardians and carers, you are invited to participate in the following relevant evening reflections with your daughter(s). More information to come! Consider saving the date for:

Father - Daughter Reflection Evening 1 June 2021

Mother - Daughter Reflection Evening 16 August 2021

If you have any questions regarding the Merici Reflection Evenings, please contact Amy Connellan, Head of Mission and Community at [amy.connellan@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:amy.connellan@merici.act.edu.au) .

## **SPORT NEWS**

### **Athletics Carnival (Tuesday 4 May)**

Please click [here](#) to find the permission note for the Athletics Carnival and working bee. The carnival is compulsory community events and all students are expected to attend. If you have not returned the permission note with the Swimming Carnival note, please return as soon as possible. The form can be printed and returned to Student Services, [student.info!@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:student.info!@merici.act.edu.au). Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/covid-safety-plan> to find our COVID Safety Plan.

### **Interschool Sport Upcoming Events**

Details of Interschool Gala Days and Carnivals for the rest of the term are listed below for those students who have been selected to represent Merici College. Please note that some sports have restricted entry for spectators, so check with the organising teacher prior to attending. Good luck to all of our girls!

FUTSAL: ACT Futsal Championships, Mon 22nd March, MPowerdome, Faden

BASKETBALL: North Side Basketball Competition, Tues 23rd March, Belconnen Basketball Stadium

SWIMMING: 2021 School Sport ACT Regional Swimming Carnival, Wed 31st March at Stromlo Leisure Centre

TOUCH FOOTBALL: ACT Touch Football Finals, Thurs 1st April, Deakin Oval (TBC)

### Merici College and Canberra School of Tennis

A free Tennis Open Day will be held at Merici College from 3.30pm onwards on Friday 26 March. All levels of experience or inexperience welcome. Please refer to the link [here](#) for further details. Register your interest by emailing [info@csot.com.au](mailto:info@csot.com.au) or contact [Jackie.males@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:Jackie.males@merici.act.edu.au)

## iC NEWS

Merici College has a number of databases and resources that are available from home 24/7. These are all located on our [Moodle system/site home](#). One such database, Sora by Overdrive is a digital library of eBooks and audiobooks for students of all year levels, as well as adults. The collection includes fiction, as well as non-fiction titles related to the Australian curriculum topics. The current collection includes over 10,000 eBooks and audiobooks, including 'Read-a-long' books.

The collection is available 24/7 from any device. It can be accessed through [Merici Moodle](#) or by downloading the Sora app onto your IOS or Android device. Books can also be read offline on a laptop accessing Sora through [soraapp.com](http://soraapp.com).

1. Download the Sora app (free from the App store)
2. Click on the Green Button **Find my school**
3. At bottom of screen '**my school isn't listed**'
4. **Find your school**, Type in: ACEN Member Collection
5. Choose our school from the drop-down menu: Merici College
6. It will redirect you back to the Merici Login
7. You can then borrow three items at any one time



We have been showing this collection, ClickView and Oliver to the students in years 7-10 during their English WIDE reading lessons. Encourage them to explore the resources, and if they are having trouble accessing the service to come and see us in the iC or send Ann Blakey an email: [ann.blakey@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:ann.blakey@merici.act.edu.au).

The iC will be closed at 3:30pm on the last day of term, Thursday 1 April.

Happy holiday reading!  
iC staff

## CO-CURRICULAR NEWS

### Duke of Edinburgh's Award

**Parent Information Evening:** Parents and students are invited to attend an information session to find out more about The Duke of Edinburgh's Award and how it operates within Merici College. All welcome.

Date : Wednesday 24 February, 5–6pm

Location: Penola Flex, Merici College

**Bronze Award Practice Journey:** On the weekend of 27 and 28 March participants will head out on their first journey for the year. The girls will hike in the Mt Clear region of Namadgi National Park and camp at Mt Clear Campground. This hike is the practice expedition for the Bronze Award and will provide bushcraft, navigation and bushwalking experience for Bronze participants.

For further details abo

ut either of these events or about The Award in general, please contact Jackie Males

[Jackie.males@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:Jackie.males@merici.act.edu.au).

### **Dance Troupe Performance (Sunday 28 March 11am)**

Please join our Dance Troupers as they perform at the Haige Park Markets on Sunday 28 March at 11.00am. Our dancers will be performing near where the Mandalay bus is parked.

### **Marist/Merici Sailing Team**

The Marist Merici Sailing Team training sessions continue this term. Aside from developing boat handling skills, sailing is a sport that develops many transferable skills applicable in many different contexts. The Team recently qualified to attend the Australian Schools Teams Racing Nationals to be held in Sydney.

If you are interested in registering for the 2021/2021 sailing season, please contact:

[Jennifer.Medd@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:Jennifer.Medd@merici.act.edu.au)

[Ed.Mickleburgh@merici.act.edu](mailto:Ed.Mickleburgh@merici.act.edu).

## **OTHER NEWS**

### **Holiday Happenings**

The next Holiday Happenings edition is now available online. To see the Programs, Activities & Events happening these holidays go to: [www.holidayhappenings.com.au/online-booklet](http://www.holidayhappenings.com.au/online-booklet).

### **International Sports Camps**

Please visit [www.iscamps.com.au](http://www.iscamps.com.au) to find out more about great school holiday sports coaching camps. Please note that the 40% offer for Merici College has been extended to Friday 26 March.

### **Stellar Cup (Sunday 18 April)**

West Canberra Wanderers are very excited to announce the Stellar Cup is going ahead in 2021. Stellar Cup is the biggest pre-season soccer tournament in Canberra with Cup and Shield competitions for 8-18 year olds of all levels and abilities. Registrations are now open at [Events@wwfc.org.au](mailto:Events@wwfc.org.au).

### **Pro Performance Cricket Easter Holiday Cricket Camps**

The Team at Pro Performance Cricket are excited to announce our Easter Holiday Cricket Camps. We offer intensive individual and group skill development for our players across all facets of the game. With an excellent coach to player ratio, and a focus on a positive and fun environment it's a perfect opportunity for the kids to enhance and develop their games while having heaps of fun, making new friends and taking their game to a new level.

Pro Performance Easter Holiday Cricket Camps booking link:

<https://properformancecricket.com/act-cricket-camps/>

Lifeline Canberra Bookfair (Thursday 25 March – Sunday 28 March)

Please support the Lifeline Bookfair!

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

ANZAC Day Public Holiday (Monday 26 April)

ANZAC Day Assembly (Tuesday 27 April)

Bridge Night Restaurant (Wednesday 28 April)

Open Day (Wednesday 28 April)


School Photos Day 1 (Friday 30 April)

Ningil House Day (Monday 3 May)

Year 11 2022 Information Evening (Tuesday 4 May 5pm-6.30pm)

School Photos Day 2 (Wednesday 5 May)

Be a Merici Girl Day (Thursday 6 May)



The poster for the Lifeline Canberra Bookfair 2021 is set against a background of a blue sky with clouds and a large, stylized stack of books on the right side. At the top left, there is a circular logo with a green checkmark and the text 'COVIDSAFE' repeated twice. The main title 'Lifeline Canberra Bookfair' is prominently displayed in a blue, cursive font. Below the title, a white box contains the text 'The Lifeline Canberra Bookfair is back for 2021 at Thoroughbred Park'. A list of items for sale is provided in two columns, including textbooks, puzzles, board games, computer software, lego, war gaming, models, magazines, pamphlets, comics, maps, atlases, audio books, cds records, sheet music, talking books, dvds, blu-ray, calendars, diaries, notebooks, posters, stamps, trading cards, and sets/encyclopedias. A table lists the dates and times: Thursday 25 March (9am-4pm), Friday 26 March (9am-6pm), Saturday 27 March (9am-4pm), and Sunday 28 March (9am-4pm). The location is 'Thoroughbred Park, 1 Randwick Rd, Lyneham Canberra'. A note states: 'Please note: for your safety, the event will be held on strict accordance with ACT Health regulations.' Two circular callouts are present: one on the left says 'Head to our website for our COVID safe plan' and one on the right says 'Gold coin donation entry'. At the bottom, a row of logos for various sponsors is displayed, including icon, service one, primary, L.I.C.E.R.T., and others.

**COVIDSAFE**

**Lifeline Canberra Bookfair**

The Lifeline Canberra Bookfair is back for 2021 at **Thoroughbred Park**

- o textbooks
- o puzzles, console, board games
- o computer software & games
- o lego, war gaming, models & miniatures
- o magazine, pamphlets & comics
- o maps & atlases
- o audio books
- o cds records & sheet music
- o talking books
- o dvds & blu-ray
- o calendars & diaries
- o notebooks, posters & prints
- o stamps & trading cards
- o sets & encyclopedias

<b>Thursday 25 March</b>	<b>9am - 4pm</b>
<b>Friday 26 March</b>	<b>9am - 6pm</b>
<b>Saturday 27 March</b>	<b>9am - 4pm</b>
<b>Sunday 28 March</b>	<b>9am - 4pm</b>

**Thoroughbred Park,**  
**1 Randwick Rd, Lyneham Canberra.**

Please note: for your safety, the event will be held on strict accordance with ACT Health regulations.

Head to our website for our COVID safe plan

Gold coin donation entry

icon service one primary L.I.C.E.R.T. coonardby JRichards