



# WHAT'S ON NEWSLETTER

Term 2 Week 10 and Term 3 Week 1 (Monday 29 June - Sunday 26 July)

## WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### Principal's End of Term Check In

Please click [here](#) and see below some resources you may like to share about keeping healthy and supported over the holiday break. Whilst some ideas are aimed at the Christmas holidays, there are many that can still apply.

For young people:

<https://headspace.org.au/young-people/how-to-stay-healthy-over-the-holidays/>

For families and friends:

<https://headspace.org.au/friends-and-family/keeping-healthy-over-the-holidays/>

I hope everyone has a very restful and safe holiday break. *Mrs Wholley*

### School Fees

This is a friendly reminder that Term 2 school fees were due on Friday 19 June 2020. If you haven't already done so, could you please settle your account as soon as possible. This does not apply to those families who have direct debit arrangements in place.

Merici College works in partnership with parents. If you are experiencing any financial difficulties please contact our Fees Liaison Officer Jodi Wrenford at [fees.office@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:fees.office@merici.act.edu.au) or call 6243 4108 to discuss the options that are available to you for assistance.

### 2020 Non-Government School Census Collection Notice

Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/2020-census-notice> to find information on the 2020 Non-Government School Census Collection of Data. The Australian Government provides funding to Australian schools under the Australian Education Act 2013 (AE Act). The AE Act and the associated Australian Education Regulation 2013 (the AE Regulation) require that a school authority provides the Australian Government with certain information about the school, its staff, and student body to ensure the school's funding is properly calculated and appropriately managed. This information is collected by the Department of Education, Skills and Employment (the department) on behalf of the Australian Government. Any personal information collected is protected by law, including the Privacy Act 1988, and will be handled in accordance with that Act, the AE Act and the AE Regulation.

If you have questions about the collection of information about schools by the Australian Government under the *Australian Education Act 2013*, please contact the Recurrent Assistance for Schools team at: [schools@dese.gov.au](mailto:schools@dese.gov.au) or [www.dese.gov.au/privacy](http://www.dese.gov.au/privacy).

## **Semester Reports – Years 11 and 12 Friday 3 July, Years 7-10 Friday 24 July**

Due to COVID-19, the Federal Government has decided that schools are not required to award an Australian Curriculum A-E grade on Years 7-10 semester one reports this year. Further to this, the Catholic Education system has decided that teacher comments are not compulsory on all semester one reports.

Merici College has decided that we would like to provide both A-E grades and comments for all students. We will also provide IB MYP grades for students in Years 7-9. We believe that it is important to try and provide you with as much feedback as possible on your daughter's progress, considering what an unusual semester it has been.

In order for us to do this, we have changed the timing of the semester reports. Years 11 and 12 student reports and ATAR estimates will be emailed out on the last day of Term 2, Friday 3 July. Years 7-10 student reports will be emailed out on Friday 24 July (Term 3 Week 1).

## **Cross-age Tutoring Program in the Information Centre Hub – Term 3**

For Tutors/Tutees, you would have received an email with details of your tutor or student and the day and time you are meeting next term. Please check your emails so that you are familiar with this information. Tutoring is commencing in Week 1 of Term 3. All enquiries to Mrs Cusack ([sarah.cusack@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:sarah.cusack@merici.act.edu.au)).

## **Transport Canberra School Bus Services – Term 3**

Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/merici-bus-services> to find changes for Merici College to commence on 18 July 2020. Additional information is as follows:

- As a new timetable is being introduced, there will be minor changes for all students travelling to and from school on public transport across Canberra from the first day of Term 3, 2020 (Monday 20 July 2020)
- In most cases, this will mean that students will catch the same service from the same stop, but the times that services arrive and leave may change.
- There will be no changes to services for school students in Term 2, 2020.
- While Transport Canberra advice remains that students should avoid using public transport if they can, many students rely on buses and light rail to get to school.
- All schools, parents and students can find out more about the specific changes by:
  - checking the information pack attached or online at [www.transport.act.gov.au](http://www.transport.act.gov.au)
  - checking timetables for each route (including school specials), which are online at [www.transport.act.gov.au](http://www.transport.act.gov.au)
  - calling 13 17 10.

## **Grandparent's Day (Monday 3 August)**

Each year at the College we hold a special Grandparent's Day liturgy and breakfast, where we invite grandparents of Year 7 to join us and accompany their grandchildren. As we are all aware, due to COVID-19 concerns we are unable to host such an event at school. At this stage, to celebrate Grandparent's Day we are preparing a special video message and prayer from Year 7 to their grandparents, which will be available online on 3 August 2020.

We will ask your daughter to think of a very short (1- 3 words) answer to the question:  
"What do you love most about the grandparents in your life?"

We plan to film the girls in Week 9 and compile their answers in a special video for Grandparents Day 2020. For ease of filming please ensure your daughter has an answer prepared by this time.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Amy Connellan, Head of Mission and Community.

#### **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/erimeter-june> to find the latest newsletter covering AirG, which is a dating app which Google Play has allowed 12 year olds to access, and "Ablo" which is a connection app that translates video and text message into many different languages and has the potential for predators to connect with your child, and encourages users to divulge your location.

#### **Attendance Notification**

Our preferred method of communication for absence is email or SMS reply. A telephone call is no longer sufficient as all attendance is required to be stored digitally.

Please contact **Student Services in the first instance** if your daughter is absent by email to [attendance@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:attendance@merici.act.edu.au) or reply to the SMS notification sent to you should your daughter be marked absent in P.C. If you do not use these electronic forms, a note explaining your daughter's absence is required on your daughter's return to school.

Extended absences should be addressed to Virginia McLeod, Head of Junior School at [virginia.mcleod@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:virginia.mcleod@merici.act.edu.au) or Damien Nemeth, Head of Senior School at [damien.nemeth@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:damien.nemeth@merici.act.edu.au), please copy Student Services ([attendance@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:attendance@merici.act.edu.au)) in the email. Please do not hesitate to copy Pastoral Care teachers or House Coordinators into email correspondence and any other information you wish to share about your child.

Absentee reports are periodically emailed to families to help ensure our record keeping is accurate and up to date.

## **YEAR 7**

#### **Parent Workshop – Elevate Education (Monday 29 June 6.00pm-7.00pm)**

On Monday 29 June, Elevate Education will be presenting seminars to all of Year 7 during their FLEX lesson. The seminar is about improving study habits and organisational skills. There will be a number of follow-up lessons during the semester to consolidate the skills they have learnt. We will build on this during Years 8 and 9. Teachers will have a workshop after school to enable them to support your daughters and you, as parents, are invited to a Parent Workshop on Monday 29 June from 6.00pm to 7.00pm in the auditorium. We encourage you to attend this Workshop as it will enable you to support your daughter to maximise her learning.

Please RSVP your attendance to [ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au) by Friday 26 June.

## YEAR 10

### Year 10 Transitions Forum (Wednesday 1 July – Friday 3 July)

The Transitions Forum is a very important event for Year 10 students. During the forum, your daughters will consider how to make decisions, reflect on what is important in life, hear about a few different careers, learn about the job market, prepare for senior study and much, much more. Students are not expected to wear uniform during this week but can wear neat casual attire. Trackpants or jeans are fine to wear. The days have been specifically organised into different areas.

- Wednesday: a full day presentation, 'Day of Hope' with Glenn Gerreyen from the Hopeful Institute, Sydney. He concentrates on goals and motivation and in the past, he has had our students on the edge of their seats with his inspirational words.
- Thursday: a full day where students will be given presentations on:
  - Introduction to Senior Study
  - IB Diploma Programme/BSSS Program
  - University degree pre-requisites
  - Extra-curricular academic activities available in Senior College
- Friday: The final day of the Year 10 Transitions forum is dedicated to the Year 10 Retreat, which will be run by Ms Amy Connellan.

### Year 10 Immunisations

Year 10 immunisations will be held on Friday 14 August. Further to advice in our previous newsletter, please note that we have several consent cards outstanding and cards must be returned even if they are a 'no' consent.

Please visit [www.health.act.gov.au/services/immunisation](http://www.health.act.gov.au/services/immunisation) and

- Scroll down to Adolescents box & click
- Scroll down to Year 10 Students & click
- Click on the link = download consent card here
- Must print double sided and prefer colour.

## LANGUAGES

### Buddies Program (Semester 2)

The Language Buddies Program will begin again in Semester 2. The program is available from students in Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 for students in the junior years. Language Buddies sessions take place on the following days:

Mondays: Italian

Tuesdays: French

Fridays: Chinese

Students may meet at the above lunch time (12:54pm-1:24pm). If the above time does not work, students can work out alternative meeting time. Tutoring takes place ONCE a week. The program will begin in Term 3, Week 3.

We would like to trial Language Buddies Program using Microsoft Teams. Please indicate on the form if you are open to having language tutoring on Microsoft Teams.

If you would like your daughter to receive tutoring, please complete the following form together with your daughter- [Receive Language Tutoring Form](#)

If your daughter would like to become a tutor, please complete the form below.

[Application to be a Language Tutor](#)

If your daughter has already signed up for the program in Semester 1 (either as a tutor or to be tutored) and would still like to continue in Semester 2, please complete either of the forms as well.

Please email Mrs Jen Baines ([jen.baines@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:jen.baines@merici.act.edu.au)) should you need more information or clarification.

## iC NEWS

In readiness for the winter holidays we have two great promotions in the iC. The first is Christmas in July where we have “presents” wrapped up and students can choose a mystery book to take home to read. The second promotion is the ‘iC Merici’s Top 100 borrowed books.’ We are challenging students to see how many of the popular books they have read.



The use of Overdrive or Sora over the isolation period increased substantially which was very pleasing to see. For those families who have not yet discovered the e-book collection they can follow the instructions below and try it out during the upcoming holidays.

The collection contains novels, non-fiction, audiobooks and is available 24/7 from any device. It can be accessed through the [Merici Moodle/site](#) home 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](#).

1. Download the Sora app (free from the App store)
2. Search for a school (type in): ACEN Member Collection
3. Choose our school from the drop-down menu: Merici College
4. It will redirect you back to the Merici Login
5. You can then borrow three items at any one time



Just as a gentle reminder, the return of Semester 1 textbooks would be greatly appreciated.

Happy Reading!

*iC Staff*

## CAREERS NEWS

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

# SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

## Green Tip #19 – Year 9 Science Students calculate plastic waste at Merici

Using an online calculator, the students in Ms Heydenrych's Year 9 Science class worked out that they each generate an average of 7.29kgs of plastic waste per year at school (just from food products). They then worked out how much this would be if extended to include all the students and staff. i.e approx 800. This works out to 5.8 tonnes per year of plastic on Merici's campus and doesn't include large items, clothing etc. The students concluded that our plastic use is the challenge of our lifetimes. Read more at <https://merici.news/blog/merici-college-green-tip-19-plastic-waste-merici>.

# OTHER NEWS

## Canberra Cricket Academy School Holiday Program

School Holiday Program - July 16-17 10am-4pm at Harrison Club Nets

Cost: \$100 per player

Winter Program – July to September, 10 indoor training sessions, 2 outdoor games

Cost \$450 per player

CCA Elite Training for U15 - National Trial and elite players

Please follow the link

<http://merici.college/go/cricket-holidays-winter> to find more information. For registration please visit <http://www.canberracricketacademy.com.au>



## #OutOfIso Golf Day

Hosted by Jack Newton Junior Golf (JNIG) and Gungahlin Lakes

The JNIG Out of Isolation Day is all about kids having fun again on the Golf Course. The "having fun" theme is extended to the outfits with fancy dress encouraged, whether that

be dressing as your favourite golfer, superhero, or wearing the colours of your favourite

sporting team. To register for the Out of Iso Golf Day, fill out the entry form at <http://merici.college/go/outofiso-golf> and send to Tournament Organiser, Luke Grinham, [Luke@jnig.com.au](mailto:Luke@jnig.com.au). Free entry – includes Four N Twenty pie and drink.

An entry form for the Gungahlin Lakes #OutOfIso Golf Day. It includes the logos for JNIG and Four N Twenty. The form is titled '#OutOfIso Golf Day' and 'Gungahlin Lakes #OutOfIso Entry Form'. It specifies the date as Thursday 16th July 2020. The entry fee is free, including four n twenty pie and drink. The form asks for participant details like Name, Address, Suburb, Junior / Parent Phone Number, Email Address, Home Club, Sex, DOB, State, Post Code, and a checkbox for Covid-19 acknowledgment. It also lists hole options: 5 Holes, 9 Holes, and 18 Holes. The bottom of the form includes the tournament organizer's details: Luke Grinham - JNIG Territory Manager, Email: [Luke@jnig.com.au](mailto:Luke@jnig.com.au), Phone: 0458 826 621, and a note about the Covid-19 risks.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming calendar events will be confirmed by email and are subject to COVID-19 restrictions.