WHAT’S ON AT MERICI
TERM 2 WEEKS 4 AND 5 (20 MAY – 2 JUNE)

WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Open Day – Thank you!
Merici College opened its doors to the general public on Wednesday 8 May for its Open Day. From 3.30pm until 7.00pm the students and staff demonstrated what life is like in a busy, energetic College.

We would like to thank all the members of the community who came to visit. Your presence in our school was really appreciated. We were humbled by the extraordinary capacity shown by over 220 students who graciously gave their time to support the school. The activities coordinated and supervised by staff were a small snapshot of the exceptional work they do every day and we thank them for their enthusiasm for teaching and learning and their dedication to the school.

National Cybersafety Awareness Week – Monday 20 May – Friday 24 May
Merici College is a National Cybersafety Awareness Week (20 May – 24 May) and Stay Smart Online partner. Our school will be supporting this government initiative by hosting a Student Technology Forum, asking students, parents and staff to respond to our Technology Policy review so that we can have an understanding of the needs of our community and by openly advertising online platforms for learning about cyber safety through Pastoral Care classes and our HELP notice board (see links below).

This week is a perfect opportunity for parents to talk to their children about their online behaviour and how this behaviour could be made safer (using the privacy setting available on social media platforms, only ‘friending’ real friends, discussing threatening or nasty posts they may receive with a responsible adult, etc.). We are also encouraging parents to download the Cybersafety Help button onto home technology devices that your daughter uses so that she always has access to assistance. The Cybersafety Help button is available from the Stay Smart Online web site.

We recommend viewing the following sites to learn more about cyber safety for your daughter:
www.staysmartonline.gov.au
www.safeschoolshub.edu.au
www.cybersafekids.com.au

"Twelfth Night" Performance by Year 9/10 Drama – Tuesday 21 May (6.00pm)
"If music be the food of love, play on".
Our very own Year 9 and 10 drama students will be performing an adapted version of William Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night' in the Merici Auditorium at 6.00pm on Tuesday 21 May. It is free entry and all are welcome to attend. Tea and coffee will be served at interval. Please follow the link http://tiny.cc/v9o3ww to find more information.
Merici Band and String Concert – Thursday 23 May (5.30pm)
A Merici Band and String Concert will be held in the Merici College Auditorium at 5.30pm on Thursday 23 May. All students and their families are invited to attend this concert.

SRC Induction Day – Thursday 23 May
With the election of new SRC representatives at the end of Term One, an Induction Day will be held in Week 4. As part of the program the girls will be involved in devising ideas and a code of conduct, team-building activities, learning how to write a proposal, and setting goals and focus areas for the year ahead.

The Induction Day will take place on Thursday 23rd May between 9.00 am and 3.00 pm at the Gathering Place in Dickson.

St Angela Merici Mass and Feast Day – Friday 24 May
St Angela Merici Day celebrations will be held on Friday 24 May. Students are invited to come to school in non-uniform for a gold coin donation. Periods 1 and 2 will be normal classes celebrating St Angela Merici’s focus on women’s education.

There will be celebratory Mass held in Period 3 from 11.30am to 12.30pm in the Gym. After the Mass student-led activities will be held. There will be a fundraising sausage sizzle lunch for Father Bony to help raised money for his attendance at World Youth Day 2013. The sausage sizzle will be served in in the new quad. All parents and friends are most welcome to attend the Mass and lunch.

Please RSVP your attendance to Ros Parisi, Public Relations Officer, email ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au or telephone 6243 4178 by Wednesday 22 May 2013.

Reconciliation Week – Monday 27 May – Sunday 2 June
To celebrate Reconciliation Week, the Narragunnawali group will be organising a special liturgy which will be held in the Chapel at 12.30pm. All parents and students are most welcome to attend.

On Tuesday 4 June a presentation will be held for parents and students from Years 9 to 12 about career pathways and entrance to tertiary education. Sarah Bourke, Dion Devon and Ann Martin from the Tjabal Indigenous Higher Education Centre at the ANU will be visiting the College to talk to parents and students about the career and education opportunities and support services available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders who study at the ANU in particular and generally for other institutions. More information to follow.

Students studying Japanese: Workshop – Monday 3 June
A Japanese Kirigami (Cut Paper) artist called Kanako Yaguchi is visiting Merici on Monday 3 June and will holding a workshop on the art for our Year 7, 9, 10, 11 and 12 students studying Japanese.

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn 2013 Recognition Awards: Outstanding Achievement in Catholic Education
This is a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate outstanding achievements by students studying Japanese.
individuals, groups and whole schools. Staff, Principals, parents, school boards are encouraged to consider nominating an individual staff member, a faculty, a team of teachers or the whole school for outstanding achievement in the past twelve months. Please follow the link http://tiny.cc/xbv3ww for more information.

School Uniform
It’s time to shine… time for your daughter to shine her shoes!

YEAR 7 NEWS

Year 7 Immunisations (Second Round) – Thursday 6 June
Immunisations for Year 7 students will be held at the College on Thursday 7 June. If you require further information about the ACT high school immunisation program please contact the School Health Team on 62052086 or go to http://health.act.gov.au/schoolhealth.

YEAR 9 NEWS

Year 9 Immunisations – Friday 7 June
Immunisations for Year 9 students will be held at the College on Friday 7 June. Immunisation consent forms have been distributed to all Year 9 students. If you require further information about the ACT high school immunisation program please contact the School Health Team on 62052086 or go to http://health.act.gov.au/schoolhealth.

YEAR 11 AND 12 NEWS

Senior Absences
Senior students are reminded that all absences must be explained with a note signed by the student’s parent/s. A single senior lesson missed can be signed off by the teacher of the class or another teacher who can verify the student’s reason for missing the lesson.

CURRICULUM NEWS

NAPLAN
Congratulations to our Year 7 and 9 students whose attendance and participation in the NAPLAN testing this week was exemplary.

DANCE NEWS

The Australian Ballet – Friday 24 May
The Dance Department will be taking a group of 50 students to see 'The Australian Ballet' on Friday 24 May. It is a special schools matinee and the students will have the opportunity to watch the company in their daily Ballet class and then will have a chance to talk to company members and hear what life is like for a ballet dancer. Students will also have the opportunity of watching a short performance.

Extravadancer – Next Rehearsal date – Sunday 26 May
The next rehearsal for “Extravadancer” will be held on Sunday 26 May from 1.00pm to 5.00pm.

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rehearsals are held in the auditorium. If you are unable to attend a rehearsal at the last minute, please notify Mrs Laird via phone (direct number 6243 4143) or email Liza.Laird@merici.act.edu.au.

‘The King and I’ Marist Production – Wednesday 29 May – Friday 30 May
A number of Merici students have successfully auditioned for roles in the Marist College production of ‘The King and I’. We congratulate Holly Ross (Year 10) in the role of Anna and Jenny Lange (Year 10) in the role of Tuptim on their success in securing the two main female roles. We also congratulate students Maeve O’Halloran, Sienna Smith, Genevieve Bunnett, Bethany East, Emily King, Eden Muthukumaraswamy, Daisy O’Malley-Welby, Chloé King, Sarah Lowe, Alyssa Markmann, Brianna Miller and Georgia Trotter who are part of the Ensemble. We wish all our students great success as they prepare for the production.

Tickets can be purchased from Marist College: Adults $20.00, child/concession $15.00, family (2 adults and 2 children) $65.00. Performances will be held at 7:00pm on Wednesday 29 May, Thursday 30 May, Friday 31 May and Saturday 1 June. Please contact Chris Walker on 62987255 or chriswalker@mcc.act.edu.au for bookings.

SCIENCE NEWS

Science and Engineering Challenge – Friday 24 May
Students from Year 9 and 10 will be participating in the Science and Engineering Challenge at the ANU on Friday 24 May. At the moment the Merici team is not full and we are asking for any girls interested to please see their Science teacher for more information.

MUSIC NEWS

National Eisteddfod – Saturday 25 May
The Merici College Junior Band will perform at the National Eisteddfod on Saturday 25 May. Students are required to be at Llewellyn Hall at ANU School of Music by 9.00am. We wish our students all the best as they prepare for the Eisteddfod.

SPORT NEWS

North Gungahlin Cross Country – Tuesday 21 May
The North Gungahlin 12 Years and Under Cross Country Carnival will be held on Tuesday 21 May 21 at Stromlo Park. Students participating in the carnival are required to be at the carnival from approximately 12.15pm and will need to make their own way to and from the venue. Supervision will not be provided by Merici College on the day. For more information please contact Andrew Blakey on email Andrew.blakey@merici.act.edu.au.

ASC Cross Country – Tuesday 21 May
The ASC Cross Country Championships is to be held on Monday 17 May at Stromlo Forest Park. The carnival will commence at 11:00am and conclude at approximately 1:50pm. Students who place in the top 20 at the ASC Championships will then move through to the ACT Schools Championships to be held on Monday June 3 also at Stromlo. For more information please contact Gerard Ryan on email gerard.ryan@merici.act.edu.au or telephone 6243 4104.
ACT 12 Years and Under Hockey ACT – Wednesday 22 May
For more information please contact Andrew Blakey on email andrew.blakey@merici.act.edu.au or telephone 6243 4118.

ACT 12 Years and Under Football (Soccer) – Friday 31 May
For more information please contact Andrew Blakey on email andrew.blakey@merici.act.edu.au or telephone 6243 4118.

ACT 13 Years and Over Girls Volleyball – Friday 31 May
For more information please contact Andrew Blakey on email andrew.blakey@merici.act.edu.au or telephone 6243 4118.

Duke of Edinburgh Introductory Weekends – Friday 31 May – Sunday 2 June
The Duke of Edinburgh Introductory Weekend to introduce Year 9 students to the program will be held on Friday 31 May until Sunday 2 June at Caloola Farm. For more information please contact David Rodda on email david.rodda@merici.act.edu.au.

DEFFENCE NEWS

International Fleet Review (IFR) Secondary School History Essay Competition
The Royal Australian Navy (RAN) is sponsoring a junior and senior NSW and ACT Secondary Schools History Essay Competition. This competition will precede the International Fleet Review (IFR) which is being held in Sydney from 3-11 October 2013. There will be 50 prize winners. Students in Years 7 to 12 are eligible to enter the following completion. For further details view the NSW and ACT Secondary Schools International Fleet Review History essay competition page on the Navy website http://www.navy.gov.au/ifr/get-involved/competitions/ifr-history-essay.

OTHER NEWS

The Journey through Adolescence – A tour guide through adolescence for Parents – Thursday 23 May
The program is called The Resourceful Adolescent Program for Parents (RAP-P) and is suitable for parents and carers of children attending primary school years 5 & 6 and secondary school students. RAP-P will help you:
• Help your teenager to develop a healthy self-esteem,
• Help your teenager to gain independence while still feeling safe and part of the family,
• Manage your stress so you can do your best job as a parent,
• Prevent and manage conflict with your teenager
• Promote harmony in your family.
Date: Thursday, 23 May (weekly for 3 weeks)
Time: 6pm to 9pm
Venue: 57 Hicks Street (cnr Hicks and Nuyts Streets). Red Hill
Fee: $50 (fee includes course materials, concessions available)
Booking Essential: Contact Gayle at CatholicCare on telephone 61626122.
Forever Family needed urgently
Barnardos are currently seeking a long term family for a twelve year old girl in foster care. She has been in care for several years and we are yet to find a family that she can stay with permanently. Julie loves the outdoors, loves riding her bike and would like to live with a family who has pets. In her words her ideal family would be “people who are energetic and who play a lot of sport”. Julie is in grade 7 at a school in the inner north of Canberra. She is an enthusiastic student and gets along well with other children at school.

Julie can exhibit some challenging behaviours at times, which is mostly her being defiant and challenging authority due to a difficult upbringing. She is currently in an intensive program in which the caseworkers work intensively with the carers to ensure that the family that has Julie are supported as much as she is. Ideally the family that would care for Julie would have no other young (under 15) children living in the home and have a spare bedroom. Couples or singles of all orientation are encouraged to apply. A team will work with you in practice, training and support. You will receive a subsidy of $596 per week to care for Sarah.

If you would like more information please contact Shannon Bradbury at Barnardos on 62289500 or sbradbury@barnardos.org.au.

ACT Scouts Australia
Are you looking for the best activity for your children? Boys and Girls can be Scouts!
For friendship, confidence, life skills, fun and much more…Scouts opens the door to a world of adventure, excitement, challenge and achievement. With challenging outdoor activities such as bushwalking, canoeing, sailing, caving, rock-climbing, camping and much more! Scouting gives you community involvement, adventure, personal growth and leadership development. Find out which night your local group meets at your local scout hall (usually a school night with some weekend events). Joeys age 6 to 8, Cubs age 8 to 11, Scouts age 11 to 14½ and Venturers age 14½ to 17 Visit www.act.scouts.asn.au to find your nearest group or call 1800 726 887 to start your free 3-week trial.

Rosary Primary School Black and White Ball – Celebrating 50th Anniversary – Saturday 10 August
Save the date for a Black and White Ball celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Rosary Primary School to be held on Saturday 10 August 2013. Please follow the link http://tiny.cc/mvo3ww to find an invitation.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Week 6 and 7)
ACT Combined Cross Country – Monday 3 June
Bridge Restaurant – Wednesday 5 June
Year 7 Immunisations – Thursday 6 June
Year 9 Immunisations – Friday 7 June
Public Holiday – Monday 10 June
Bridge Restaurant – Wednesday 12 June
Year 10, 11 and 12 Exam Period – 17 June – 25 June
Year 9 Enlighten Day – Monday 17 June
Principles of Powerful Learning Workshops – Monday 17 June – 28 June
ACT 13 Years and Over Hockey – Monday 17 June
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