



WHAT'S ON NEWSLETTER

Term 2 Weeks 6 and 7 (24 May – 6 June)

IMPORTANT NOTICES

School Fees

This is a friendly reminder that Term 2 school fees are due on Friday 21 May 2021. 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 or call 6243 4108 to discuss the options that are available to you for assistance.

Your support please

The CEO Winter Sleepout is on again and this year. Help me raise funds for those who are impacted by homelessness in Canberra and the wider region!

One night isn't a lot, but it can make a whole lot of difference. At Merici College, our students and staff are committed to raising awareness of such an important need in society. We will be camping out together onsite at the school.

Every night, thousands of Australians experience homelessness. But it doesn't have to be that way. This year I'm taking part in the Vinnies CEO Sleepout to raise money for the St Vincent de Paul Society to support Australians in need. For one night, I'll be sleeping outside as part of an eye-opening experience to raise awareness and bring home the realities of homelessness. To help break the devastating cycle of homelessness, I need your support. Will you help me to reach my target? Donating 50 dollars can make a huge difference to people who need it most.

I'm raising money for a cause close to my heart and would love your support.

<https://www.ceosleepout.org.au/s/12266/51451/e>

Thank you so much for any help you can offer.

Anna Masters

WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

St Angela Merici Day (Friday 28 May)

Friday 28 May is our annual St Angela Merici Day, an important celebration on the school calendar to gather together as a community to celebrate the Feast Day of Saint Angela Merici. The day not only recognises our Patron Saint, Angela Merici but all of our Founding Congregations and our associated College Houses.

MERICI COLLEGE

Wise St
Braddon
ACT 2612

GPO Box 154
Canberra
ACT 2601

Telephone (02) 6243 4100
Facsimile (02) 6243 4199

principal@merici.act.edu.au
www.merici.act.edu.au

The structure of the day will look like this:

- Period 1 & 2: Angela Merici Day Mass and Christian Service Learning Program Awards
- Period 3: House Activity
- Period 4: All School Activity
- Lunch: House Stalls run by House Captains with support of students
- Period 5 & 6: Activities on the oval

The canteen will continue to operate on the day but with a significantly reduced menu. We have had instances in the past whereby students have attempted to have UberEats (or similar) delivered to school. We cannot allow this for several reasons and would love your support as parents/guardians with this.

Students are expected to wear full school uniform for the Mass and awards ceremony in the morning but have the choice to change into free clothes at recess.

Normal attendance processes apply for the day including the regular sign out procedure whereby a parent/guardian must come in to collect and approve the absence.

We are really looking forward to this and expect to publish many photos on social media as the day progresses.

YEAR 10, 11 AND 12 NEWS

Year 10 Exams

Year 10 will sit their semester 1 exams on Thursday 3 and Friday 4 June. The exams will be held in the College Auditorium. The timings of the days will be as follows:

Thursday:

Periods 1 and 2	English Exam
Recess	
Periods 3 and 4	Classes as per normal timetable
Lunch	
Periods 5 and 6	Maths Exam

Friday:

Periods 1 and 2	Science Exam
Recess	
Periods 3 and 4	Classes as per normal timetable
Lunch	
Periods 5 and 6	Classes as per normal timetable

Year 11 and 12 BSSS Exams

Year 11 and 12 BSSS students will sit their end of Semester 1 exams between 7-11 June in the College Auditorium. Students will be emailed their individual timetable shortly. Students are expected to attend all exams. They are not expected to be at school outside of their exams.

No BSSS classes will run during this week. If students are unable to attend exams, medical certificates are required to cover any absences to avoid academic penalties.

All BSSS students are expected to return to classes in week 18 (14-18 June) for their final week of classes for the semester. The last day for school attendance for Year 11 and 12 BSSS students is Friday 18 June.

CAREERS NEWS

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

HEAD OF MISSION AND COMMUNITY

Angela's Angela Afternoon (Friday 21 May)

Tomorrow afternoon (3.30pm-5.30pm), an Angels Afternoon will take place in the CRLC. During the afternoon, students will participate in a range of games, challenges and small group discussions with a faith focus. The session will be led by our Youth Minister, Maddi Green.

For further information regarding the afternoon, please click [here](#).

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

Christian Service Learning Program

Our Christian Service Learning Program aims to provide students with an increased awareness of justice in the world and encourages them to seek to transform our society for the better. Students who have completed 50 hours, 100 hours and 150 hours of service will be recognised through the presentation of the Blue, Red and Gold Angel Awards at the conclusion of the St Angela Merici Day Mass on 28 May. Many students are to be commended for their initiative and selfless service to others in both the school and broader community. Year 7 students who have not yet submitted their Lenten Program Booklet to their RE Teacher are encouraged to do so as soon as possible, as these are now overdue.

Reflections Program: Father – Daughter and Mother-Daughter Evenings

We are excited to be offering our Reflections Program, a new initiative at Merici College, commencing this year. The program includes a Father-Daughter Evening and a Mother-Daughter Evening. This is an exciting opportunity for parents to spend some dedicated time with their daughters (and vice versa!) to explore their relationships through a faith-based retreat experience. In 2021, the focus is centred around the Ursuline charism (the charism – spirit, linked to Brescia House).

Please find details below and rsvp to ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au.

Father – Daughter Evening Tuesday 1 June

2021 focus: *Pilgrims on our journey* (Ursuline – St Angela Merici focus)

Time: 5.30pm-7.30pm

Includes: Light refreshments

Location: C1 & C2

Mother – Daughter Evening, Monday 16 August

Time: 5.30pm-7.30pm

2021 focus: *The heart of the St Angela Merici Rose* (Ursuline – St Angela Merici focus)

Includes: Light refreshments

Location: C1 & C2

CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

2021 Creative and Performing Arts Showcase

Dance, Photography, Visual Arts, Music, Vocal, Media, Drama

Opening and refreshments – Tuesday 15 June 5pm-5.30pm in the Auditorium foyer.

RSVP essential by Wednesday 9 June to

ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au.

Exhibition viewing – Tuesday 15 June from 3pm, Wednesday 16 June 9am-3pm in the Auditorium.



Merici College students proudly present a production of Roald Dahl's *Matilda the Musical JR.*

Our cast are working very hard to bring to our stage an entertaining and exciting musical. Our talented performers continue to demonstrate the very high standards we have come to expect of Merici College, and our production team are committed to bring to life the story of a girl who dreams of a better life.

Be a part of this wonderful experience and meet Matilda who has astonishing wit, intelligence... and special powers! She's unloved by her cruel parents but impresses her school teacher, the highly loveable Miss Honey. Matilda's school life isn't completely smooth sailing; the school's mean headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, hates children and just loves thinking up new punishments for those who don't abide by her rules. But Matilda has courage and cleverness in equal amounts, and could be the school pupils' saving grace.

Join us for what will truly be an extraordinary musical production!

Book now!

Cast A:

Friday 30 July and Saturday 31 July 7pm

Cast B:

Friday 6 August and Saturday 7 August at 7pm

Tickets available at TryBooking

<https://www.trybooking.com/BOHCK>

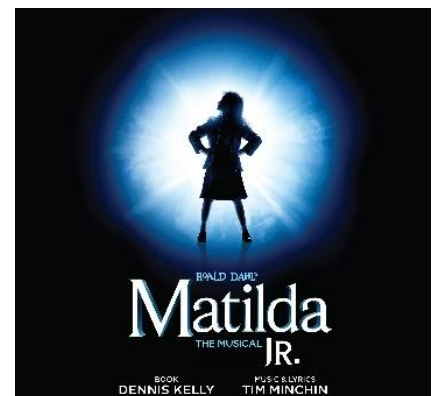
Adults: \$15

Students: \$10

Child 12 Yrs and under: \$5

Senior Citizen: \$10

Family: \$50 (2 Adults, 3 Students).



LANGUAGES NEWS

Panda Competition 2021

The Panda Competition is conducted every year by the Australia China Friendship Society. It is open to all students regardless of what language they are studying in schools.

The topic for this year's competition is **Traditional Chinese Games**. Students are asked to focus creatively on an aspect of this topic. The product could be a drawing, painting, 3-dimensional construction, a poem, etc. Students can enter the competition individually or as a group of no more than 4.

Please email Mrs Jen Baines (jen.baines@merici.act.edu.au) for more information. You can also refer to the document found [here](#).

Foreign Language Resources and Books

The school library has a good selection of books, comics, short stories, novels, and magazines in languages other than English. Please approach the friendly library staff to find out where these wonderful books are located in the library.



IB NEWS

Key IB DP Dates – Year 12

Please find below the key IB dates (This does not include Merici set assessment.)

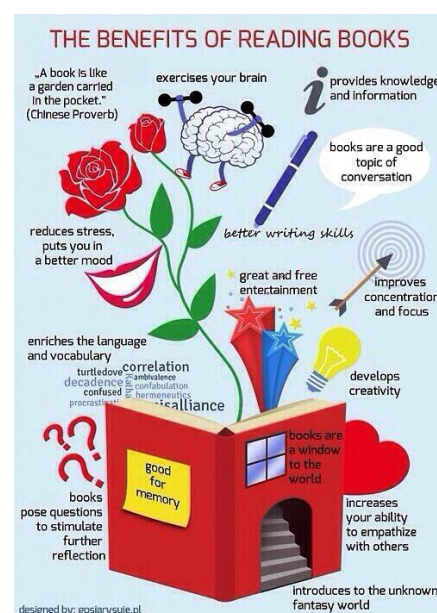
Date	Event
7 May	Draft of EE due (Deadline extended until June 1 st)

iC NEWS

It was fantastic to watch the four Merici teams at the Kids Lit Quiz on Friday 7 May. It is with great excitement that we congratulate Team 4; Nhien Vu, Catherine Brooker and Tamsin Gloag who came second behind Canberra Grammar school. This is a huge achievement for a group of three Year 7's!

In the Wide Reading lessons, we often talk about the benefits of reading for pleasure. Those students who chose to pick up and read a book for the love of it, are more likely to make significant progress in vocabulary, spelling, and maths than those who read very little (Sullivan and Brown, 2013). Reading for pleasure can increase empathy, improve relationships with others, reduce depression and improve wellbeing throughout life (The Reading Agency, 2015). At school we provide many opportunities to celebrate books and be involved as readers. Yesterday at lunch we read *Give me some Space* by Philip Bunting for Simultaneous Storytime, along with over 1 million other Australians.

Happy Reading
iC Staff



OTHER NEWS

ACU Blackfriars Lecture

The next ACU Blackfriars lecture will take place on 8 June, on the topic 'Mental Health Education: supporting young people to thrive'. The lecture will be given by Heidi Prowse, CEO of Mental Illness Education ACT.

Tuesday 8 June
5.45pm – registration
6pm-7pm – Lecture
Free entry

Where: Room 301.1.20 Veritas Building
ACU Canberra Campus 223 Antill Street, Watson ACT



Mental health education: supporting young people to thrive

As the primary local mental health education provider in Canberra, MIEACT engages with young Canberrans of all ages, background and schools. Through mental health education we build the essential skills to live a productive and healthy life, but we can only do that if we truly understand the barriers, issues and challenges they face. In this session we will unpack what the reality is for young people in our community and how to support them to thrive.

SPEAKER
Heidi Prowse, Chief Executive Officer, Mental Illness Education ACT

RSVP
by Friday 4 June 2021 to
acucanberra@acu.edu.au
Registration is essential.

All attendees will be required to check in through the Check in CBR app.

Please feel free to share this invitation with your family, friends and colleagues.

EVENT DETAILS

Tuesday 8 June 2021
5-45 pm - registration
6pm to 7pm - lecture
Cost: Free
Where:
Room 301.1.20
Veritas Building
ACU Canberra Campus
223 Antill Street,
Watson ACT

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RSVP by Friday 4 June 2021 to ocd.canberra@acu.edu.au, registration is essential. All attendees will be required to check in through the Check in CBR app. Please feel free to share this invitation with your family, friends and colleagues.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Term 2 Weeks 8 and 9)

Year 11 and 12 Exams (Monday 7 June – Friday 11 June)

Public Holiday – Queen’s Birthday (Monday 14 June)

Creative and Performing Arts Showcase (Tuesday 15 June – Wednesday 16 June)