

# WHAT'S ON AT MERICI #fidelitas #merici60

Term 3 Week 10 and Term 4 Week 1 (23 September - Sunday 20 October)



## WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### Uniform Information Night (Monday 23 September 5.30pm-6.30pm)

Our new uniform supplier, PSW, has delivered preliminary stock for sizing purposes. We will be holding an information evening for all parents and students on Monday 23 September commencing at 5.30pm until 6.30pm where the uniform will be paraded by students. Ordering procedures and item prices will be outlined, as well as the Uniform Shop operating hours. The information session will be held in the Auditorium.

### Parent-Student-Teacher Interviews - Online Bookings open Tuesday 17 September

Parent-Teacher-Student interviews will be held on Tuesday, 24 September and Thursday, 26 September 2019 from 4:00pm – 6:30pm in the Auditorium.

Each interview has an allocated 6 minute timeslot. If you need to speak to a teacher on a more in- depth basis, please contact the teacher directly.

This is 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 or discuss any concerns about progress. If teachers do not request an interview with you, you are still encouraged to make appointments 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. 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 Tuesday 17 September 2019. 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



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principal@merici.act.edu.au  
[www.merici.act.edu.au](http://www.merici.act.edu.au)

(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 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 families who have not provided the College with a current family email address, we would appreciate you contacting us with this information.

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, 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."*

**End of Term 3 (Friday, 27 September)**

**Term 4 begins (Monday 14 October)**

### **Summer Uniform**

Please note that summer uniform is required to be worn from the start of Term 4 to the end of Term 1 2020. Please ensure that dresses and skirts are the appropriate length and shoes are in good condition. To view the full school uniform policy, please follow the link

<http://merici.college/go/uniform>.

### **Merici Tomato Plant Sale (Saturday 19 October from 8.00am)**

Tomato seedlings propagated by Merici College Sustainability students and teachers will be on sale to the public on Saturday 19 October. The sale will be held next to the Kitchen Garden at Merici College, corner Limestone Avenue and Henty Street Braddon from 8.00am until sold out, \$3.00 each or 4 for \$10.00. Please follow the <http://merici.college/go/merici-tomato-sale> to find more information. Get in early, plants sell fast!

## 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/12> to find the September newsletter and the latest special advice regarding Likee and Grand Theft Auto.

## YEARS 7, 8 and 9 NEWS

### Year 8 Medieval History Day (Friday 27 September)

On Friday 27 September all Year 8 students will have a Medieval History Day. This will take the place of their regular classes. They will participate in a range of history-related sports, arts and cultural activities to learn more about medieval history in a fun way. To make the most of the day, each student will need to prepare her own costume and historically appropriate food to share during the feast.

### Year 8 Catch the Wave Retreat (Wednesday 16 October)

The Catholic Schools Youth Ministry Australia (CSYMA) program is continuing at Merici College as part of Archbishop Christopher's plan for the new evangelisation of youth in our archdiocese.

The first phase of this program includes a retreat experience called Catch the Wave. This one-day program provides an opportunity for students to hear the youth ministry message and aims to meet youth where they are at. Students are encouraged to "paddle out" and explore their faith in an engaging and fun day full of great activities.

Our Year 8 students will be taking part in the retreat on Wednesday 16 October. Once the girls have participated in the retreat we will be asking for volunteers to continue with the CSYMA program in 2020 as part of a specific Religious Education class which will complete the Introduction to Youth Ministries course during Religious Education class time.

The following link is to the video produced by CSYMA as a teacher introduction to the unit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Co54KdUx3zQ>. Should you have any questions, please contact either Amy Connellan - 62434157 ([amy.connellan@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:amy.connellan@merici.act.edu.au)) or Andrew Blakey 62434156 ([andrew.blakey@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:andrew.blakey@merici.act.edu.au)).

### Year 9 Geography Excursion (Friday 25 October)

Year 9 Geography students will attend an excursion to the Australian National Botanic Gardens and Jerrabomberra Wetlands on Friday 25 October. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/year-9-geography> to find the permission note.

## YEARS 10, 11 and 12 NEWS

### Year 12 Formal (Friday 6 December)

It is with great excitement we ask you to save the date for the Merici Student and Parent Formal 2019. To ensure that everyone who wishes to be a part of the evening has the opportunity to attend, we would like to outline some important details about the evening.

The formal will be held at the National Arboretum on Friday 6 December. Merici Year 12 students, their partner and their parents are invited. The College invites parents to this event as we believe it is an important night to share with your daughter(s), celebrating her successful College graduation. Payment can be made in stages via the Finance Office.

## CAREERS NEWS

To find the latest Careers newsletter and information, please visit

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

## SPORT

To stay updated on all sporting activities, please ensure your daughter checks our Sports Moodle page and/or Twitter @MericiSport.

### GH Nutrition

Merici College has established a connection with GH Nutrition. We welcomed Georgia Houston to the College recently to deliver a workshop to our Year 9 students around Healthy Eating and Body Image. The students found this to be a very beneficial experience. Georgia kindly created a snack ideas flyer for the students, <http://merici.college/go/ghnutrition>. More information can be found on the GH Nutrition website: [www.ghnutrition.com.au](http://www.ghnutrition.com.au)

## CHRISTIAN MISSION PROGRAM

### Volunteering Opportunity Years 9-12 Students

Embracing Ministries is seeking volunteers for students in Years 9-12 for the Spring Christian Holiday Program during the October school holidays. Please note this is not a Merici College organised or supervised activity and therefore parent supervision is advised.

Further information from Embracing Ministries:

Embracing Ministries (<https://embracingministries.org/>) would like to invite Year 9 - 12 students to join Embracing Ministries as student leaders/mentors. Mentors will be extensively trained to prepare them for the unique challenges faced in working with young people with special needs, before being partnered with a participant of our Spring Christian Holiday Program. Mentor training will be held on Saturday 28 September 2019 and Saturday 5 October 2019 at Woden School, Deakin. Student volunteers will be expected to attend these dates. Registration to become a Mentor costs \$30 and includes all training and materials, as well as relevant certificates and potentially a letter of referral for volunteer work after the program.

People with a disability are in great need of ministry, particularly young people with intellectual and physical disabilities. There are many obstacles preventing people with disabilities from attending churches. There are logistical and practical obstacles, but also communication, integration and relationship building obstacles. Embracing Ministries seeks to integrate children and young people with disabilities and their families into churches and the wider community. Accordingly, I am writing about this mentoring opportunity for your senior students to be involved in Embracing Ministries programs.

Following on from successful programs for the past three years, Embracing Ministries is again offering our five-day, non-residential Spring Christian Holiday Program for children and young people with disabilities. This program will be ecumenical, although undergirded by the Anglican Diocese of Canberra-Goulburn and sponsored by Anglicare. The holiday program will be located at Woden School, Deakin, from Monday 7 – Friday 11 October 2019. There will be volunteers assisting with the personal care of the participants, driving the buses, room leaders, room chaplains, and a medical team.

If your daughter may like to apply to become a student mentor with Embracing Ministries, please contact [info@embracingministries.org](mailto:info@embracingministries.org).

Rev. Andrea De Vaal Horciu, Director of Embracing Ministries  
Mobile: 0404256714

## iC NEWS

It was with much delight that the iC welcomed Emma Grey as our Author visit for 2019. Emma conducted a Writer's Workshop to 30 students from Years 7-12. All those who attended have realised the importance of planning your writing, some tips on creating characters,



storylines and to write what you know. Emma then treated the Year 7's to an Author Talk, where she shared the inspiration of her two Young Adult novels; *Unrequited* and *Tilly Maguire and the Royal Wedding Mess*.

Thursday 19 September is Australian Reading Hour, where everyone is encouraged to stop what they are doing to read for one hour. This will be celebrated in our Wide Reading lessons for the junior years over the next 2 weeks. [Reading for enjoyment has been linked](#) to academic success.

As it nears the end of term, we are requesting for any books with the Merici barcode either textbook, library or any overdue books to make their way back to the library. This may also be the perfect time to stock up for some holiday reading.

The iC will be closed after school at 3:30pm on the last day of term, Friday 27 September.

Happy reading

iC Staff

## EXPRESSIVE ARTS NEWS

### European Arts Tour 2019

The inaugural European Arts Tour participants leave for London, Paris, Florence and Rome on Wednesday 25 September. The group will be travelling for two weeks with 17 students from the performing and visual arts and will be participating in specialist workshops, taking guided tours of theatres, museums and galleries, attending a West End show and a concert in Paris, visiting the studios where the Harry Potter films were made, as well as visiting the Vatican and Ancient Rome and many other iconic sights! We wish the students and staff a very safe trip.

### Senior Drama

Senior Drama will be participating in the 'Come Alive' Drama festival at the Canberra Theatre on Thursday 26 September.

## OTHER NEWS

### Tennis Canberra Holiday Camps @ Old Parliament House Tennis Club

- Camp 1: September 30th, October 1st & 2nd
  - Camp 2: October 9th- 11th
  - Morning, Half & Full Day options available
- Sign Up: [www.tenniscanberra.com.au/holiday-program](http://www.tenniscanberra.com.au/holiday-program)

### Free Trial - Term 3 - Give Tennis A Go!

New players are invited to a free trial before Term 4. This is a great opportunity for all students to see if tennis is the sport for them. Please e-mail [play@tenniscanberra.com.au](mailto:play@tenniscanberra.com.au) to request a free trial and the team will get back to you with the best options.

### After-School & Weekend Coaching - Term 4

Run by Tennis Australia professional at a Tennis Canberra Club near you. Our coaches are excited to see many new players hit our courts in the Spring. Learn a sport they can play for life.

Sign up: [www.tenniscanberra.com.au/junior-tennis](http://www.tenniscanberra.com.au/junior-tennis)

Email: [play@tenniscanberra.com.au](mailto:play@tenniscanberra.com.au)

Phone: 0416 186 121

### The Cinema comes to Gungahlin!

The Cinema comes to Gungahlin on Thursday 19 and Friday 20 September 2019!

We are encouraging residents to check out the upcoming @Canberra Short film Festival in Taylor. There is a family friendly screening and a 16+ screening. Films feature animation, music video, documentary and 2-Minute Films. Meet the puppets at the Thursday night all ages screening. Food available on the night. Kids options available.

Click on the invitation below to find out more and purchase tickets!

For more details, go to the [Eventbrite page](#), Facebook [All ages](#) or [16+session](#) pages or the [www.csff.com.au](http://www.csff.com.au).

Ozcode Academy will be running a coding and robotics program for students from ages 7-15 during the October 2019 school holidays in both regions of north and south Canberra. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/coding-robotics-program> to find more information.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS (Term 4 Weeks 2 and 3)**

Commissioning Ceremony (Monday 21 October)

Sport and Recreation Camp (Tuesday 22 October – Wednesday 23 October)

Talk and Tour for prospective families (Saturday 26 October)

Brescia House Day (Monday 28 October)

Bridge Restaurant (Wednesday 30 October 6.00pm)

Year 7, 2020 Orientation Day (Friday 1 November)