



# WHAT'S ON AT MERICI #unitedinhope

Term 3 Week 10 and Term 4 Week 1 (Monday 18 September and Sunday 15 October))

## WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### 2018 College Leadership

The Merici College school community congratulates the following students who have been elected in College Leadership positions for 2018.

College Captain – Olivia Straker	College Vice Captain – Bronte Alexander
<b>Specialist Captains:</b> Expressive Arts/Cultural Captain – Amy King Narragunnawali Captain – Hannah Mason Social Justice Captain – Kate Connolly Spirituality Captain – Erin Smart Sports Captain – Claire Molineux SRC Captain – Zoe Lee-Archer and Sophie Smith Sustainability Captain – Clare Woo Transition Captain – Elizabeth Henderson	<b>House/Vice Captains:</b> Balgo: Caitlin Hanna (House), Clare Moloney (Vice) Brescia: Imogen McLean (House), Caitlin Brady (Vice) Ningil: Andrea Forshaw (House), Madeleine McDonald (Vice) Penola: Maddison Green (House), Liana Rando (Vice) Seiwa: Erin Slaven (House), Madeleine Fisk (Vice) Tullow: Caroline Tai (House), Sarah Drew (Vice)

### Summer Uniform

Please note that summer uniform is required to be worn from the start of Term 4 to the end of Term 1 2018. 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/choolniform>.

### Staffing Update

We would like to take this opportunity to farewell Mrs Natalie Dickie who has been acting as the Deputy Principal Development in Terms 1-3. We thank her for contributing her expertise and leadership to our Merici community. Mrs Dickie will be taking Long Service Leave in Term 4 and then returning to her substantive position of Assistant Principal at St Clare's College.

We congratulate Mr Phil Coe on his appointment as the Deputy Principal Development from Term 4 2017.

In addition, we wish to advise that Mrs Liza Laird (currently Penola House Coordinator) will act in the position of Head of Senior School for Term 4. Mrs Laird will continue to work with Years 10-12 students in Penola House and Mrs Kyla Firman and Mrs Vicki Meyers will work with and support Penola students in Years 7-9.

### Expressive Arts Assembly – Monday 18 September

An Expressive Arts Assembly will be held on Monday 18 September at 12.10pm in the gym. All welcome to attend.

### **Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews – Tuesday 19 September and Thursday 21 September**

Parent-Teacher-Student interviews will be held in Semester 2 on Tuesday 19 September and Thursday 21 September 2017 from 4:00pm – 6:30pm in the GYM. 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. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/ookings> to find information on the PTO, the online booking system.

### **Changes to the Transport Canberra Bus Network - Saturday 7 October 2017**

On Saturday 7 October 2017, Transport Canberra will be introducing a revised network and timetable. This change is the first of a series of improvements towards an integrated public transport system in 2018 with the introduction of light rail to the nation's capital. This information including new timetables and maps are now available for parents and students to view on the Transport Canberra website [transport.act.gov.au](http://transport.act.gov.au)

Some dedicated school services have also changed. We ask all parents and students to check their school route timings and maps for changes. This information is available on the [schools page](#). You can choose to search by *Route Number* or *School Name*.

**Term 3 ends – Friday 21 September**

**Term 4 begins – Monday 9 October**

### **Canberra Metro Light Rail Construction Road Update**

Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/anberraetro> to find the latest road closures and diversions.

### **Credit Card/BPoint Payments**

Please note that payments due on 1 October will be processed 29 September due to school holiday closures.

### **SchoolTV – Gambling**

Teenagers have many opportunities to gamble. Smartphones and tablets allow young people gamble at any time, day or night. Some children start to gamble very young, some as young as ten. By the age of fifteen, most children have gambled in one form or another.

Unfortunately, the internet exposes children to gambling well before they are legally allowed to gamble. There are thousands of online gambling websites, which children can easily access and use without money via smartphones or Facebook apps. There are also many video games for children that contain gambling themes and content.

It is important to explain the risks of gambling to your child and how it works so they understand the consequences. In Australia, gambling is being normalised through sport with sports betting being promoted at sporting events. Please follow the link <http://merici.act.schooltv.me/category-latest-newsletter> to launch our SchoolTV site and find the latest newsletter.

### **Parent Advice Newsletter September/October 2017**

Merici College is constantly updating the ways that we protect our students and we wanted to remind you of some of the new initiatives that are continuing this term.

The *Parent Advice Online Safety* information sheet focuses on technology issues that concern parents. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/arentdvicenline> to find the latest newsletter. This information has also been attached to this newsletter.

We encourage the College community to contact us with specific apps or topics that you would like more information on so that we can help you support your child.

### **Study Skills Handbook September Newsletter - Learning Collaboratively**

We are all different in the way we prefer to learn. Some students like to work in groups, and others prefer to work alone. Some students like to discuss things over Skype or messenger and some like to work together in person. There is a reason why we have the saying 'two heads are better than one', so let's see how this applies to different types of students by following the link <http://merici.college/go/tudykillseptember>. Visit [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au) by logging in with the details below:

Username: mericicollege

Password: 24achieve

## **YEAR 7, 8 and 9 NEWS**

### **Catch the Wave Retreat – Wednesday 11 October**

The Catholic Schools Youth Ministry Australia (CSYMA) program is being introduced 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 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 11 October (Week 1 next term). Once the girls have participated in the retreat we will be asking for volunteers to continue with the CSYMA program in 2018 as part of a specific Religious Education class which will complete the Introduction to Youth Ministries course during Religious Education class time.

The link below 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 further 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 8 Reflection Day – Thursday 19 October**

Year 8 will participate in a Reflection Day on Thursday 19 October at the College with the theme "*Life of Love*". During the day the students will be reminded they are held gently in the palm of God's hand, there are times that their hearts need to be renewed and that they need to ask for forgiveness for the times they have not been completely loving.

During the afternoon liturgy, the students have an opportunity to reflect on their actions and they will be motivated to start afresh – with a renewed heart. Older students in Merici College's Angela's Angels spirituality group will be assisting with leading some of the sessions during the day.

Year 8 Students are required to wear neat, casual clothing and bring a shared-plate of food for recess and to bring their own lunch. Lunch time is at the usual school time so access to the Canteen is available. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/asuallothes> to find dress guidelines for casual clothes days at Merici. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Connellan, Head of Mission and Community.

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

### **2017 Year 12 Formal**

Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/r12formal> to find information outlining important details about the 2017 Year 12 Formal.

## **CAREERS NEWS**

Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/ericiareersews> to find the latest Merici Careers Newsletter.

## **SPORT NEWS**

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

## **LANGUAGES**

### **Year 7 – 10 Chinese Lion Dance Workshop – Tuesday 10 October**

Chinese studies will have an opportunity to attend an optional Chinese Lion Dance Workshop. This is an interactive workshop that gives your daughter a chance to gain an understanding of the brief history of lion dancing and the significance of this art form in Chinese culture. Through this workshop, your daughter will have a chance to learn some basic lion dance movements and the rhythm associated with lion dancing. It will be a hands-on workshop that allows students to use the drum, cymbals and gong and lion head and tail.

As this is an optional workshop, non-participating students will attend lessons as per their normal timetable on that morning. Arrangements will be made for Year 9/10 Chinese students to be gainfully engaged if they opt out of this workshop. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/hineseionanceorkshop> to find the permission note.

### **Merici Italian Exchange Program 2018 – Information Evening – Thursday 12 October (6.30pm)**

Each year the Merici community is fortunate enough to welcome private exchange students from several external agencies and countries, but what you may not know is that Merici has its very own program.

The program runs in conjunction with the Western Australian Association of Teachers of Italian (WAATI) in Perth and began in 2008 when Merici employed a teacher from Perth. Since then, on a bi annual basis we have invited and sent over thirty students in the program. In 2017, we received three students in the Esler, Taloni and Ingvarson families and we will send 6 of our students to Italy. In 2017, we had our first Scholarship recipient in Gabriella Gregoire. To attain the scholarship Gabriella needed to undergo an interview in Italian with a panel in Perth, coming first in a very competitive field.

From 2018, we would like to run the program each year and for the first time, Merici families will be able to **host a boy**. Yes, you read correctly, a boy. To do so you will need to have either a son attending a co-ed or boys' school in Canberra or a past association with a school (for example, if you had three sons go through Marist). While the female exchange students can of course be accommodated at Merici, it will be the family who will need to approach the school and organise for their male Exchange Student to attend.

### **When is the hosting period?**

Students arrive in Week 10 of Term 2 and leave around Week 6 of Term 3, usually giving six weeks of school term and two weeks of holiday. During the hosting period, Merici teachers will host an induction afternoon and a farewell function.

### **Who can host a student?**

Any Merici family is eligible. Your daughter does not have to be a student of Italian, as the students come to Australia to improve their English skills.

### **How much does it cost?**

Your family provides "room and board" to the student. No money changes hands, they are treated like one of your children and they have the same familial responsibilities as your children. Students bring limited spending money with them.

### **Do they need their own room?**

No, they can share, and this works well.

### **Do we need to go on special holidays?**

Families are not expected to do any more than they would usually do with their families, but if a family holiday is already planned or booked without the exchange student the family may have to rethink their participation in the program.

### **What about uniform?**

Usually between what the student brings and the school, we can arrange for a uniform.

All interested families are invited to an Information session that will be held on **Thursday 12 October at 6.30 pm in the CRLC** where a WAATI representative will give a more detailed overview of the program and answer questions. To register your interest, or to obtain further information, please email the Languages Facilitator at [antonietta.martiniello@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:antonietta.martiniello@merici.act.edu.au).

## **EXPRESSIVE ARTS NEWS**

### **Year 9 and 10 Incursion – Brett Hunt - Monday 18 September**

Brett Hunt is coming to Merici to perform two separate works which focus on Australia's involvement in war. Year 9 students will see Brett show "Fightin the Kaiser", which incorporates the songs, poems, letters, anecdotes, reportage and reminiscences of the ANZACS. Brett plays Gassy, a wounded vet eternally inhabiting the no man's land of a veteran's hospital. As with all of Brett's performances he presents a powerful drama with a sense of humour and live music.

Year 10 students will see Brett's performance "Dusted Off" - the story of youth seeking adventure and of the traumatic reality of war, for those who fight and for those who support them. Accomplished actor and guitarist Brett shares his story as the son of a Vietnam veteran.

### **Ausdance Youth Dance Festival (Dancefest) – Wednesday 20 September**

Ausdance Youth Dance Festival (Dancefest) will be held on 20 September at the Canberra Theatre and involves Years 10, 11 and 12 Dance students. It is an annual event and involves most of the secondary schools and Colleges in the ACT.

### **USA Performing Arts Tour – 21 September-3 October**

On Thursday 21 September, 22 Dance students and 2 staff members (Liza Laird and Laura Pearce) leave for the USA Performing Arts Tour. The tour group will be spending one week in New York and five days in Los Angeles, participating in various Performing Arts workshops, seeing Broadway shows and visiting iconic landmarks, museums and generally enjoying the entertainment industry and American culture! We wish the group a safe and enjoyable trip.

## **Mission and Community**

### **Indigenous Immersion to Lombadina / Djarindjin, Western Australia – 23 September – 3 October**

On Saturday 23 September six Senior students, accompanied by staff Ms Connellan and Mr Chifley, as well as two Catholic Mission Australia representatives, will participate in a cultural immersion in the Lomadina-Djarindjin community, North-East of Broome organized by Catholic Mission Australia. They will spend ten days in community, assisting the catholic school in Lombadina, learning and connecting with elders, working along-side the community, and building a relationship with its members, We wish the group a very safe and rewarding experience and look forward to hearing many wonderful stories on their return.

## **iC NEWS**

Term 3 has been a busy term for the iC team. We have had Book Week; and the author, Frances Watts visited us on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September, giving an author talk for all Year 7 students, and then a writer's workshop for some Year 8 English classes. On the 14<sup>th</sup> September we joined in with the Australian Reading Hour where many of us stopped and read for an 'hour' at lunchtime. With Term 3 coming to an end, it is timely to remind all students to return their library books and pick up some new ones for holiday reading.

A recommended read is *The Bone Sparrow* by Zana Fraillon, on the Honours List for the Children's Book Council of the Year Awards for 2017. A story of freedom, survival and friendship about a young boy who has spent his whole life in an Immigration Centre.

Happy reading

iC Staff

## SRC NEWS

### Share the Dignity

Merici College is proud to support Share the Dignity – a registered charity founded in 2015 to provide vulnerable women in our community with essential sanitary products. The aim is to provide homeless and at-risk women nationally with sanitary products to allow them a sense of dignity at a time when they need it most.



No woman should suffer the indignity of choosing between eating or buying sanitary items. Throughout the months of July and August, bins will be placed at Student Services where you are able to make sanitary product donations. We are collecting predominantly sanitary pads and tampons, but maternity and incontinence pads are also welcome. Please ensure that the products are complete and in their original packaging (as when bought off the shelf).



### Project Uplift – Bras in good condition wanted!

Since 2005, Uplift, with assistance from Intimo and Rotary Australia World Community Service, has sent 750,000 bras wherever women have requested them. Uplift tries to ensure they get to the women who need them without compromising their dignity. We have sent bras to Fiji, PNG, Vanuatu, Cook Islands, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Philippines, Bali, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, the Northern Territory and the Kimberley regions in Australia.

### What Do We Want?

- Size 8-16, A-DD cup (30-40 / 80-100) in good condition, including crop top styles.
- Size 18+, A-DD cup (42+ / 105+)
- Nursing bras including crop tops, ANY condition will do. If it will catch a leak it is better than nothing, which is the alternative.
- Mastectomy Bras and Breast Forms (prostheses). These will be given to hospitals for distribution.
- Any bra in good condition

Please place any bras you can donate in the collection bin at Student Services, thank you!

### Blood Donation Program

The Australian Red Cross Blood Service will be raising the donation age to 18 years old. As the majority of students do not turn 18 until Semester 2 of Year 12, this means that unfortunately the blood donation program at Merici can no longer continue due to lack of eligible students and the appointments/buses booked will be cancelled.

Merici College would like to thank its students, staff, family members, and friends for your continued support over the years. The Blood Service is still very keen for you to donate blood, plasma and platelets so please give them a call or go online to book an appointment.

Blood Service – 13 14 95  
<http://www.donateblood.com.au/>

## CO-CURRICULAR NEWS

**Dance Troupe Upcoming Performances – Ainslie Primary School Fete – Saturday 16 September**  
Our Dance Troupe will be performing at the following community events:

- Ainslie Primary School Fete - Saturday 16 September at 11.30am.
- Floriade - Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October at 1.20pm-2.30pm
- Marymead Fete – Saturday 14 October 10.30am and 11.30am

All welcome to come along and support our dancers and these community events.

**Music – Floriade Annual Public Performance – Thursday 12 October**

Our students in Senior Band, Advanced String Ensemble and Chamber Group will be performing at Floriade on Thursday 12 October from 10.40am-11.50am. Students will leave the College at 9:30am to make their way to Commonwealth Park, Regatta Point.

This year the school groups will be performing on a new stage called the Regatta Point stage and it is down near the ferry gate. All welcome to go along and support our musicians.

## OTHER NEWS

**Sacrament of Confirmation St Mary's Parish, Bungendore 2017**

St Mary's is running a preparation program for the sacrament of Confirmation for baptised Catholic children in Year Six or above, who have already received the Sacraments of Reconciliation, and Eucharist.

Confirmation will be celebrated in St Mary's Church Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October, 6:00pm.  
Information Session:- Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 1:30pm St Mary's Hall, 28 Turallo Tce, Bungendore.  
Candidates' Retreat:- Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2pm – 5:15pm St Mary's Hall, 28 Turallo Tce, Bungendore.

Preparation sessions during Saturday Evening Mass, 5:30pm, 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> October.

More details and enrolment forms are on

<http://www.stgregorysparishqueanbeyan.com/>

[sacred-room/sacraments-at-bungendore/](http://www.stgregorysparishqueanbeyan.com/sacred-room/sacraments-at-bungendore/) or phone 6238 1247 (11- 5 Wednesdays) or email [bungendore@cg.org.au](mailto:bungendore@cg.org.au).

## Free Tennis Session at Merici College

When: Tuesday 19 September, 10 October\* and 17 October\*

Time: 4-5pm (3:45pm Start\*)

More Information about Tennis at Merici College at

[www.tenniscanberra.com.au/activities/braddon/](http://www.tenniscanberra.com.au/activities/braddon/)

Contact: [play@tenniscanberra.com.au](mailto:play@tenniscanberra.com.au) or 0416 186 121 (Robbie Manzano)

## Parent Effectiveness Training (P.E.T)

*Supported by Parentline ACT*

Learn respectful communication skills for a peaceful, gentle approach to parenting, without the use of punishment or reward. P.E.T helps children and parents develop resilience, emotional intelligence, confidence and consideration. The course is powerful, proven and practical. Yell less, enjoy your children more. Build relationships that last a lifetime. The 24 hour course consists of three-hour sessions, once per week, for eight weeks. Booking is essential. \$390 pp for the course (investment includes a workbook and textbook).

Course begins: Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017 (minimum number of participants required);

Time: 6.30 pm to 9.45 pm; Place: Weston, ACT.

Enjoy P.E.T. with Larissa Dann, accredited P.E.T. instructor.

Resource blogs: [www.parentskills.com.au/blogs/larissa](http://www.parentskills.com.au/blogs/larissa); Contact: [info@parentskills.com.au](mailto:info@parentskills.com.au)

For more information: visit [www.parentskills.com.au](http://www.parentskills.com.au); read [P.E.T. on a Page](#); and join the [Parent Skills Facebook](#) community.

## GIVIT BUGS + BLOOMS Creative Kids' Workshops at Floriade -

Create whimsical insects and flowers from recycled materials for the sculptural Rejuvenation Garden at #DonateRejuvenate House at Floriade. BUGS + BLOOMS invites kids to let their imaginations run wild, whilst learning about the importance of up-cycling ordinary household items. Working alongside local artists, kids will have the opportunity to experience the joy of donating an insect or flower to Rejuvenation Garden plus take a creation home. For accompanied children 7 years old and up. Brought to you by [GIVIT](#), matching generosity with genuine need, in association with [Wellspring Environmental Arts & Design](#).

Dates: Saturday 23 September – Sunday 8 October

Times: 11:00am & 1:00pm daily

Location: #DonateRejuvenate House, Floriade, Commonwealth Park

Tickets: <https://premier.ticketek.com.au/shows/Show.aspx?sh=BUGSBLOO17>

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

Commissioning Ceremony – Monday 16 October (12.10pm)

Student Leadership Handover – Monday 16 October

Year 9 Camp – Wednesday 18 October – Friday 20 October

Year 8 Retreat – Thursday 19 October

Dance Troupe at Hackett Shops Party – Saturday 21 October (12.00pm-12.30pm)

Dance Troupe at Murrumbateman Field Day – Sunday 22 October

Brescia House Day – Tuesday 24 October

Mission Mass St Christopher's Cathedral – Wednesday 25 October (10.30am)

Year 7 2018 Induction Day – Friday 27 October

Duke of Edinburgh Navigation Day – Saturday 28 October

Tomato Plant Fundraiser – Saturday 28 October