



WHAT'S ON NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 10 – Term 4 Week 1 (Monday 21 September-Sunday 18 October)

WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Balgo House (Monday 21 September)

Balgo House will celebrate their annual House Day on Monday 21 September. Students and staff of Balgo House will gather in the Long Pastoral Care lesson to participate in some whole group activities and learn more about the history and traditions of Balgo House. Students in Balgo House are encouraged to accessorise in yellow for the day. Please note that full school uniform is required on this day. Mrs Firman, our Balgo Pastoral Care Teachers and our Sisters of Mercy are looking forward to celebrating all things Balgo on this day.

SRC Feel Good Week (Friday 25 September)

On the last day of Term 3, Friday 25 September, our SRC have organised a day of fun and 'feel good' activities for students to enjoy.

Students are invited to come dressed in casual clothes for the day. Please note that:

- All College rules about make-up, jewellery and facial piercings apply on this day.
- Shoulders must be covered and no shoe-string tops, bare midriffs or revealing necklines.
- Skirts and/or shorts should be mid-length or longer (no 'short-shorts' or 'mini skirts').
- No 'skins' or tights to be worn instead of trousers or jeans.
- No inappropriate slogans or symbols on clothing or accessories.
- Do not wear ugg boots, thongs or high-heeled shoes.

Please direct any enquiries to Virginia McLeod, Head of Junior School (virginia.mcleod@merici.act.edu.au).

End of Term 3 – Friday 25 September

Term 4 begins – Monday 12 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 2021. 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>.

Uniform Shop Extended Hours

A reminder that the uniform shop is open on Tuesdays 8am-11am and Thursdays 2pm-5pm. To assist in meeting your needs prior to the start of Term 4, the shop will be open by appointment only during the school holidays on Tuesday 6 October, Wednesday 7 October and Thursday 8 October. To make a booking, please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/uniformbooking> to our automated booking system.

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/sept-parent-online> to find the latest newsletter covering Triller and Google Hangouts . Please also follow the link to Parental Controls on Devices:

<https://www.perimeterguardian.com.au/2020/08/parent-controls-on-your-devices/>

YEAR 7, 8 AND 9 NEWS

Christian Service Learning Program - Year 8 Project

Year 8 students have started planning their Christian Service Learning Project in the area of Sustainability. All students have received their Reflection Journal and are required to complete their project and submit their completed journal by the end of Week 3, Term 4. If you could please have a conversation with your daughter about her ideas and progress over the coming weeks and encourage her to take progress photos of her project.

Further information: Students are required to complete a total of 12 hours of service with a focus on sustainability: how they can demonstrate stewardship. Students will complete some hours at school and are encouraged to complete 8-10 hours in their own time on their own project at home, in the community or at school. It was reiterated to students to keep the project simple and they may wish to complete a number of smaller projects to accumulate the hours.

Students are watching the Fight for Planet A series and are currently developing ideas for their small project in RE lessons. Students will be credited with time given to research in class for their project and teachers will add this to their record of hours in their journals. Please click [here](#) to find some ideas which have been suggested by students.

If you have any questions regarding the Year 8 Christian Service Learning Sustainability project, please contact Ms Amy Connellan amy.connellan@merici.ect.edu.au.

Thank you for your support of the Christian Service Learning Program at Merici College.

CASE Space Academy School – Year 7 students

Merici College is pleased to support a new online holiday learning course from Actura for middle school students – CASE Space Academy: *Mars Exploration*. This applied STEM course supports our school's STEM program and its learning outcomes are aligned with the Australian Curriculum.



Learning STEM skills from an early age is essential for students to prepare for success in our rapidly changing world. Actura's applied STEM education program makes theory accessible and relatable to young students. This helps to solidify foundation skills leading to greater self-confidence and interest in STEM learning.

Through the excitement of real space scenarios and fun activities, *Mars Exploration* will ignite your child's interest and enthusiasm for STEM while nurturing their curiosity and imagination.

- Learn about Mars, spaceflight, and the Mars 2020 Mission.
- Design your own Mars exploratory mission.
- Apply STEM and 21st Century skills to solve real space challenges
- Opportunity to meet NASA experts in live webinars
- Live coaching by CASE certified course leaders

[Learn more: casespaceacademy.com.au](https://casespaceacademy.com.au)

CASE Space Academy is a comprehensive online space learning program specifically for Year 7 students and exclusively supported by NASA experts. We have negotiated a special introductory offer for Merici College families. Register your child on *Mars Exploration* for just \$300 - this is \$50 off the usual course price. To claim this offer, please use this promotional code:

CSAMERACT

- 28 Sept - 2 Oct 2020
- Presented by Actura - Registered Creative Kids activity provider

Enquiries: tristan.richmond@actura.com.au, register here: casespaceacademy.com.au

YEAR 10, 11 and 12 NEWS

Key End of Year Academic Dates

Please click [here](#) to find key end of year/semester academic dates for all of our senior students. This outlines when all results will be published both internally and externally (for Year 12).

Please ensure that you read through this document so that you can best support your daughter at the end of the year at what can be a stressful time.

An important date to note is the last day of classes for all seniors, Monday 23 November. The students are then on summer holidays after this date. Year 12 Graduation and Formal will follow this in the first week of December.

CAREERS NEWS

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

IT NEWS

Family Zone September School Holidays Newsletter

It is no surprise that your students' technology use increases during school holidays, with some research showing that it can almost double! With school holidays just around the corner, this month Family Zone have compiled some parent resources to assist in managing your children's school holiday screen time which can be accessed [here](#).



iC NEWS

It was with much delight that the iC welcomed Jack Heath for our Author Visit for 2020. Jack conducted a Writer's Workshop to around 25 students from Years 7-12. All those who attended have realised the importance of planning your writing, some tips on creating great characters, storylines, and to write what you know. Jack then treated the Year 7s to an Author Talk, where he shared the processes of writing, with some tips on making your story interesting, and appealing to the reader.



Details about Book Week 2020, to be held Week 2 next term, will be forthcoming in the next What's On. The theme is 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds', so get your creative thinking caps on ready for the Dress Up Parade.

As it nears the end of term, we are requesting that 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 3:30 on the last day of term, Friday 25 September.

Happy reading,
iC Staff

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

Q&A with Damon Gameau, Creator of film 2040

All students and staff are invited to come along to a Q&A on Tuesday 22 September between 1:15-2:15pm. The SAM team will be doing a Q@A with the creator of the film 2040, Damon Gameau. The Q&A will be done over zoom and Daramalan College will also be participating.

To come to the Q&A, all you need to do is put your name on this google doc:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tuQWVpszlxs1NBc9FPBPO_8pZXhiXPAekxanp83bcCg/edit?usp=sharing



It will be a fun experience so make sure you sign up.

House Competition – Beauty Product Package Recycling

The SAM (Sustainability at Merici) team is running a House competition next term. The aim is to collect as many beauty product packages as possible so they can be recycled by Terracycle.

TerraCycle® is a social enterprise Eliminating the Idea of Waste®. Operating in 20 countries, they have found that nearly everything we touch can be recycled and they collect typically hard-to-recycle items through their first-of-their-kind recycling programs. TerraCycle have diverted millions of kilograms of valuable resources from landfills all over the world, and say they are just getting started.

What can you recycle?

Recycle any brand of cosmetic, hair care, or skin care packaging. This includes items such as:

- Shampoo bottle caps
- Conditioner bottle caps
- Hair gel tubes and caps
- Hair spray bottles and triggers
- Hair paste plastic jars and caps
- Lip balm tubes
- Face soap dispensers and tubes
- Lotion bottles, tubes, dispensers, and jars
- Shaving foam tubes (no cans)
- Lip gloss tubes
- Mascara tubes
- Eye liner pencils and cases
- Eye Shadow tubes
- Concealer tubes and sticks



Please do not send in aerosol cans, perfume bottles, nail polish bottles, and nail polish remover bottles, electronic items such as blow dryers and straighteners, any bio-medical or bio-hazardous waste or any contents of packaging such as nail-polish, lotion, soap or ointments. Please start collecting any of these items to send in to school during Term 4. Collection boxes will be placed near the offices of our House Coordinators (outside CRLC) – don't forget to place your item/s in your House box to gain House points for the competition.

So please start collecting to reduce waste and recycle our resources!

Sw(op) Shop Term 4

In preparation for our Sw(op) Shop to be held in Term 4, we ask our families to spring clean their wardrobe over the holidays and save any clothing item and/or accessories that can be donated for re-use. Please ensure that all items are in good, clean, reusable condition.

SPORT NEWS

Merici Summer Oztag

All teams have now been finalized and lists have been distributed. The season will commence in the 21st October. Please contact your Team Manager or Emma Kennedy if you need further clarification.

Merici Netball

Good luck to all our teams competing in the CNA netball finals this weekend.

Merici College After School Tennis

Tennis lessons will commence in Term 4 at Merici College. All levels are welcome. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/merici-tennis> to find more information. The College does have a small number of Tennis Fee concessions available for interested Year 7 students. Please contact Emma Kennedy to find out more at emma.kennedy@merici.act.edu.au

LANGUAGES NEWS

Canberra Academy of Languages

Our next Canberra Academy of Languages information session will be held as a Google Meet teleconference on Thursday 24 September, from 6 pm. Those who would like to participate are invited to contact us via info@cal.act.edu.au, to receive the link for the online meeting.

As you know from past updates, we are recognised as a Specialist Education Provider by the ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies and this year we are providing courses in French, German, Spanish and Tamil. We may also run programs for Arabic, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese and Korean in 2021, if there are sufficient students interested and if qualified teachers are available. Students can enrol at Continuing and Advanced levels. Senior secondary courses are generally for students in Years 11-12. In cases where this suits their situation, students in Years 9-10 may participate under the early access category. For more information on early access, see the top of page 2 in the Q&A attachment. As outlined on the programs page on CAL website, Beginning courses are not currently offered by CAL.

Details about our September information evening and our EOI process are available on CAL website. Also available on CAL website are the CAL Flier and the CAL Q&A overview, current copies of which are attached. Families interested in possible places in our programs for 2021, as well as being encouraged to participate in our information evening, should send us their EOIs as outlined on the home page on CAL website, preferably by the end of this term. Information from EOIs will help in our planning for programs to run next year.

For further information please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/cal>.

SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS

Can you assist to **Share the dignity?**

Many women in Australia have little access to sanitary items due to homelessness or poverty... Members of our Merici College community are invited to support local Canberrans by donating sanitary items during Weeks 8-10 Term 3.

This year the Social Justice@Merici group is focusing on sustainable donations such as period underwear and relevant sanitary products for teens particularly. Please place any donations in the Share the Dignity collection box near Student Services. Please visit <https://www.sharethedignity.org.au/> to find more information.

Mission Month - Catholic Mission Socktober

During Week 1, Term 4, Merici College students are invited to participate in our Socktober initiatives in support of Catholic Mission's 2020 focus in Cambodia (<https://youtu.be/jDJWXh9MYDI>). The events will be launched in Week 10. Students are encouraged to organise their socks for crazy sock day over the school holidays in preparation for the day.

BUSINESS SERVICE DIRECTORY

Do you run a business and belong to our Merici family? Would you like your business listed in our directory? Send in your business name, short business description, website and contact details to ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au. Click [Business Directory](#) to find our current directory.

OTHER NEWS

Young Engineers Canberra Holiday Camp Spring 2020

Build Your Tomorrow. Today! Holiday Camp will be held on 30 September-1 October at Chapman Primary School or 6-7 October at Merici College. For morning information, visit TryBooking at <https://www.trybooking.com/BLAYL> or <https://www.trybooking.com/BLBZC>. Contact 0490 808 138, email canberra@young-engineers.com.au, www.young-engineers.com.au.



Touch Football

To find out more about Touch Football in your area, please visit www.touchfootball.com.au/act or email kim.wilmshurst@touchfootball.com.au. Competitions held in Harrison, Amaroo and Deakin. Juniors season starts 26 October until 4 March 2021. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Capital Lakes Rowing Club Holiday Program

Capital Lakes Rowing Club is conducting a School Holiday Rowing Program (Monday-Friday, 28 September - 9 October) for students in Year 7 and 8, however if there are others who are slightly older, they could also join. Please find program information and the registration form [here](#). Unfortunately places are limited so registrations will be accepted on a first come basis.

Woden Valley Choir

Woden Valley Youth Choir has provided a music education to hundreds of students from ACT and surrounding region for over 50 years. WVYC offers a dynamic choral programme for young people aged 8 to 25 and we are proud to provide so many positive benefits to our members: the value of learning to sing with confidence, positive self-esteem, and performance skills, which will hold them in good stead for the rest of their lives. WVYC is a not-for-profit community choir with a strong music education programme.

Auditions for young people going into Year 3 next year through to College age will be held in late September and early October prior to first term 4 rehearsal on Tuesday October 13, with vacancies in all choirs and are especially keen to audition more young men for their changing and changed voices choir, Centauri Voices.

For more information on auditions please go to <https://www.wyc.org.au> and download an application form or email info.wyc@gmail.com or phone 1300 599 655.

Hurricanes Softball Club Registration

Please visit www.hurricanessoftball.com.au to find registration information. Games are played Saturday mornings – October to April at the Hawker Softball Centre. The cost is \$160 (includes a team shirt).

UPCOMING EVENTS

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