WHAT’S ON AT MERICI
Term 3 Weeks 8 and 9 (9 September – 22 September)

WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Merici College Virtual Tour
Please visit our website www.merici.act.edu to find our new virtual tour. The tour takes you around the College and provides you with valuable curriculum information on each teaching Department. Please send the link http://tiny.cc/436u2w onto all your family and friends for their interest.

Change to Qcity Transit (previously Deane’s Buslines) School Bus Services
Qcity Transit wishes to advise parents and students of a change to school bus numbers for services at Merici College commencing on Monday 16 September.

- Bus No. 12 (pick up from Karabar) becomes Bus No. 23.
- Bus No. 23 (pick up Jerrabomberra) now becomes Bus No. 71

Please note that there is no change to the route or timetable of the service. If you require further information please refer to our website www.qcitytransit.com.au or contact TravellerInfo on 6299 3722.

SRC Raffle Tickets - Major Prize: One Direction Tickets on sale from Monday 9 September – Friday 13 September
As a follow-on from the Vinnies School Sleepout which took place on 27 June this year, the SRC will be running a raffle to raise money to buy 2-man tents which we will donate to the St Vincent de Paul Society. The tents will then be provided to those in need so that they are able to sleep in campsites or caravan parks. Raffle tickets will be sold during Week 8 of this term from 9 September to 13 September. The first prize will be two tickets to a One Direction concert which have been generously donated to the SRC. The concert will take place on the evening of Sunday 6 October in Sydney. **The prize is tickets only and does not include transport or accommodation.**

The raffle tickets will cost $3.00 for one ticket and $5.00 for two and will be sold during morning PC and at lunchtimes during week 8. Thank you in advance for supporting this initiative.

Year 7 – 2014 Information Evening – Tuesday 10 September (4.45pm-7.00pm)
An information evening will be held for all Year 7 2014 students who have enrolled to commence at Merici College in 2014.

Bridge Night Restaurant – Wednesday 11 September (6.30pm-8.00pm)
The Bridge Restaurant will be open for dinner on Wednesday 11 September from 6.30pm to 8.00pm. If you would like to make a booking please call 6243 4100.

Sustainability Day with Costa Georgiadis – Thursday 12 September
On Thursday 12 September Year 9 and 10 Sustainability students will have an opportunity to spend the morning with Costa Georgiadis, host of ABC’s show **Gardening Australia**, in the kitchen garden and glasshouse. After recess a whole school assembly will be held with Costa addressing the issue of waste management, in particular the College’s recent waste audit. In celebration of Canberra’s Centenary, Year 7 students will be planting trees on the oval with Costa after lunch. We look forward to welcoming Costa back to the College.
Anime Club Sydney Excursion – Saturday 14 September
The Anime Club will be having an excursion to Sydney to attend Animania on Saturday 14 September. Students will travel by bus from the Wise Street carpark at Merici College, departing 6:00am and returning 7:15pm. The cost of the transport will be $45.00. This includes a local train ride to the Australian Technology Park and the return journey to Sydney. Tickets to Animania are not included in this price. Please note that the cost of the excursion is based on approximately 20 students attending the excursion and may change. Students can arrange to pre-purchase their Animania tickets on-line or buy them on the day. If you have any questions, please email Matthew Reynolds at Matthew.Reynolds@merici.act.edu.au.

Celebrating Australian Citizenship Day - Tuesday 17 September
Merici students and staff are often involved in many volunteer activities to assist those in our wider community. On Tuesday 17 September these individuals will be thanked for all their hard work with a morning tea at the school to help celebrate Citizenship Day. Students will be asked during PC what activities they are involved in and they will be invited to attend.

Merici Science Series 2013 – Tuesday 24 September (3.40pm for 4.00pm start)
All interested students, staff, friends and family are welcome to attend Merici’s Science Series talks. The talks are held in the Science flexi learning area. Afternoon tea is served in the restaurant at 3.40pm and the talks begin at 4.00pm.

On Tuesday 24 September Dr Ben Corry (ANU) will be visiting the College. Dr Corry’s research crosses the boundaries between biology and physics as he looks at the molecules that control electrical signalling in nerves and other cells. For further details please follow the link http://tiny.cc/mg4e1w.

Federal Election 2013
Please follow the link http://tiny.cc/dmbi2w to an electronic version of the NCEC document on Facts on Funding leading up to the Federal Election. The information sheet has been developed by the NCEC Strategic Communications Working Group which has been prepared for school communities in the lead-up to the Federal Election. The document reiterates key facts about the government funding of schools, identifies the priority areas for Catholic schools and lists six topline education policy questions that have been put to the major parties.

Book Week Thank You!
Thank you to all our staff and students who supported Book Week from Monday 19 August to Friday 23 August. Students raised $400 dollars from the dress up parade for the Children's Book Council Christmas appeal. Our winners were:
1st - Jemma Heron as Moaning Myrtle
2nd-Eleanor Rhodes as The Other Mother from Coraline
3rd - Josephine Cusack as Captain Hook
We congratulate all the students for dressing up to the theme “Read Across the Universe”.

YEAR 7 NEWS

Visit to the National Botanical Gardens by Year 7 Integrated Maths and Science (IMS) – Wednesday 11 September and Tuesday 10 October
The Year 7 Integrated Maths and Science (IMS) have recently been studying the concept of Classification, more specifically exploring the systems of designing keys and the conventions of naming species. With this in mind, an opportunity exists for students to access the resources and expertise available at the Australian National Botanical Gardens here in Canberra. This excursion will allow students to utilise the extensive assortment of plant species through two classification tailored programs run by the Garden staff.
IMS classes that run on lines 2 and 3 will go on Wednesday 11 September and lines 6 and 7 will go on Tuesday 10 October. Each excursion will be from Period 1 to the end of Period 3.

YEAR 8 AND 9 NEWS

Year 9 History Excursion to National Museum - Thursday 19 September
On Thursday 19 September the students in Ms Bowen's Year 9 History class will be attending an excursion to the Glorious Days Exhibition at the National Museum as part of their studies of Australia in the Modern World. This excursion is taking place over recess, their period 3 history lesson and part of lunch. Permission slips are due back to Ms Bowen by Monday 16th September.

Year 8 Geography Fieldtrip – Friday 20 September
A fieldtrip to Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve has been organised for Year 8 Geography students. Students will broaden their study of the Australian landscape, develop field work skills in the collection of data and record their observations during the visit. The fieldwork is an integral component of this course, as the fieldwork booklet and following in-class report comprise part of the semester assessment. Students will depart Merici at 9.00am and return at approximately 3.00pm. Students are required to bring a packed lunch and plenty of water (there is nowhere to buy food), sunscreen, hat, and wet weather gear, PE top, long trousers (jeans or school track pants), coat and footwear suitable for bushwalking (students must be correctly dressed), clipboard (or something to lean on), pencils, eraser and pens.

Year 8 History Incursion Day – Friday 20 September
On Friday 20 September all Year 8 History will be participating in a day long medieval history incursion here at the school. They will be participating in a range of activities to compliment their current classroom studies of Medieval history. Perhaps they'll learn how to bake medieval bread, perhaps they'll complete an illuminated manuscript, perhaps they'll learn some of the difficulties of archery by actually doing it themselves? Throw in a medieval feast, lifestyle and battle entertainment from the Ancient Arts Fellowship and the day is complete. Further information will be given to the students about this event in class time in Week 7.

YEAR 10 NEWS

Accredited Physical Education Course for Seniors – Expressions of Interest due Friday 6 September
As previously advised in an email sent home, an accredited Physical Education course will be available for Year 11 and 12 students to include in their senior course package. The course is open to students in Year 10 and Year 11 and is a new subject which may be offered in 2014, depending on the level of interest from the student body. Please follow the link http://tiny.cc/iwkr2w to find more information. If students are interesting in the course, please submit an expression of interest to Robert Higginbotham by Friday 6 September.

ANU Extension Information Evening for Year 11 students in 2014
ANU Secondary College is changing. From 2014, ANU will accept senior secondary students into a new program called ANU Extension. ANU Extension students will enrol in an ANU academic award program that is designed to provide an enhanced learning experience for Year 11 and 12 students. The Extension program is open to all students that will have a concurrent full-time enrolment at an Australian secondary school in 2014. Students who successfully undertake studies in ANU Extension will be able to matriculate into an ANU bachelor degree program and receive credit towards the bachelor degree for the studies successfully completed. Students apply online for the program in Year 10 and, if successful in the selection process, begin their course in Term 2 Year 11. There is no cost to the students for participation in this program.
The Information Evening will provide the chance to hear more detail about the program and give the opportunity to ask questions about how the program could fit into your planned study program, how to apply as well as answering any other questions you may have. It is anticipated that in 2014 Advanced courses will be offered in Japanese, Chinese (Mandarin), Astrophysics, Chemistry, Conservation Biology, Discovering Engineering, Physics, Specialist Mathematics and Indonesian. The Information Evening will be held on Monday 9 September commencing at 6.00pm at ANU Campus, Copland Theatre, Building 25 (http://campusmap.anu.edu.au/). All interested prospective students and their parents and friends are invited to attend. For any additional information please contact helen.kaye@anu.edu.au.

**Year 10 Social – Friday 20 September**
The 2013 Year 10 Social will be held on Friday 20 September at Merici College from 6.30pm to 10.30pm. The theme of this year’s event is ‘Developing Wisdom’. Students are encouraged to dress to the theme: *Wisdom is knowing the difference between right and wrong and having the self-discipline to act on this knowledge. It is gained by experience, reflection and learning from those wiser than ourselves!* For more information please follow the link http://tiny.cc/zqz61w.

**YEAR 11 AND 12 NEWS**

**Senior Absences**
A reminder that senior absences need to be explained within a 5 working day period or students risk those absences remaining as unexplained for the purposes of senior attendance with the BSSS.

**Year 12 Formal Date Change to Thursday 5 December**
Please be aware that the date of the Year 12 Formal has been changed to Thursday 5 December. More information to follow.

**CURRICULUM NEWS**

**Junior Electives – Subject Selection Online opens Friday 6 September**
The time is approaching for junior students in Years 7, 8 and 9 to choose their electives for next year. Students will make their selection online through Subject Selection Online (SSO) and each student will have a secure login. Students must seriously consider all their choices, as class size limits and popularity of electives can impact the allocation of students to classes. We do guarantee that students will get either choice 1 or 2.

Students going into Year 10 must ensure they meet the ACT curriculum requirements of an arts and a technology subject over the course of Years 9 and 10, according to ACT Curriculum Framework. The Electives handbook is available on the College website at http://tiny.cc/f3c31w. SSO will be available to students from Friday 6 September to Monday 16 September inclusive. Failure to enter preferences by the deadline may result in automatic allocation of electives.

**Parent Teacher Student Interviews and Interim Reports – Wednesday 18 September (4.00pm-7.00pm)**
From discussions at our recent Parent Forum it was clear that the interim reports in their current form are not overly helpful. In response, we are trialling a new method of providing parents with an indication of their daughter’s progress to date.

If your daughter’s teacher is requesting an interview with you, in regard to either Achievement or Application, this will be indicated in a letter which will be posted home on Friday 6 September. The letter will also include login details for booking interviews on Parent Teacher Online (PTO). This replaces the separate “Interim Report” that has been sent in previous semesters. Please note that a teacher may

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request an interview both to commend a student’s performance as well as discuss any concerns about progress. If no teacher requests an interview with you, you are still encouraged to make appointments with any teacher to discuss your daughter’s progress.

PTO will be open from 6.00am Tuesday 10 September until 8.30am Wednesday 18 September. Parent-Teacher-Student interviews will be held on Wednesday, 18 September from 4:00pm – 7:00pm in the Auditorium. Interviews will be extended to 6 minutes duration, please leave 6 minutes between interview bookings. If you need to speak to a teacher on a more in-depth basis, please contact the teacher directly.

**DANCE NEWS**

**Excursion to 'Project Rameau' at the Canberra Theatre Centre – Friday 13 September**

The Dance teachers have organised a combined dance/music excursion to see 'Project Rameau' at the Canberra Theatre Centre on Friday 13 September. This is a combined performance by the Sydney Dance Company and the Australian Chamber Orchestra. Students will leave the College at 11:45am and return at approximately 2:30pm. Dance/music students are required to return their permission note to their dance or music teacher as soon as possible.

**Dancefest – Thursday 19 September – Friday 20 September**

Year 10, 11 and 12 Dance students will be performing at Dancefest on Thursday 19 September at the Canberra Theatre. The theme this year is '100 Dreams'. Please follow the link [http://tiny.cc/2rwu2w](http://tiny.cc/2rwu2w) to find more information.

**SPORT NEWS**

**ASC Girls Basketball – Monday 9 September**

The ASC Basketball Gala Day will be held at Tuggeranong Southern Cross Stadium (22 Cowlishaw Street, Greenway ACT 2900) on Monday 9 September. The day will commence at 8:30am and conclude at approximately 3:00pm. Students participating in the Gala Day must make their own way to and from the venue. Students are required to wear her white Physical Education polo shirt, navy blue shorts, white socks and runners whilst competing and needs to ensure that she is adequately equipped for the carnival (eg: sufficient fluids, food, etc.). Please note Merici playing shirts will be provided on the day and must be returned before leaving the grounds at the end of the tournament.

**ACT 13 Years & Over Netball Finals – Wednesday 11 September**

The ACT Netball Finals Carnival to be held on Wednesday 11 September at Lyneham Netball Courts. The carnival will commence at approximately 8:30am and conclude at approximately 3:00pm. Students participating in the carnival are required to be at the venue no later than 8:15am.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**Australian Vocational Student Prize**

Congratulations to Mikaela Dingley (Year 12 Graduate 2012) on winning the Australian Vocational Student Prize for 2012. The Australian Vocational Student Prize recognises Mikaela’s outstanding commitment and achievements in vocational education and training which she undertook as part of her senior secondary certificate. We congratulate Mikaela on this wonderful achievement and the high level of dedication and enthusiasm she has displayed whilst developing her valuable skills in vocational education.
National Cross Country Running Championships – 31 August
Merici had four students competing in Launceston at the National Cross Country Running Championships on 31 August. The conditions were very tough with a lot of mud after Tasmania had received well above normal rain fall in winter with another 15mm falling the day before the race. In the 13 years 3km race Ellie Hoitink was our best result coming 13th in a field of 70 and Elizabeth Henderson also ran (despite being a year younger than the others). Elizabeth Drew and Grace Hoitink competed in the Under 18 race 4km coming 37th and 75th respectively in a field of 91. Well done to all of our athletes.

OTHER NEWS

Teenage Affluenza
Are you suffering from Teenage Affluenza? To find out more, please follow the link http://tiny.cc/4osw2w.

2CC’s My School Bonus Competition - Support Merici College
Each month Radio 2CC along with Artisan Stone are giving one lucky school a $1000 grant. So, if you are a teacher, student, parent or alumni, tell us why your school needs a $1000 bonus and your wish could be granted. To nominate your school go to the 2CC website www.2cc.net.au and complete the online details. Spread the word to your community - the more submissions the better the chance of our school winning.

Athletics Foot Podiatrist Free Consultation in Store – Friday 6 September
Foot and walking assessments at the Athlete’s Foot Canberra Store are now available with respected, qualified and independent local Podiatrist Richard Lee from the Walking Clinic on Friday 6 September, 4.30pm-6.30pm. For more information please follow the link http://tiny.cc/dmbi2w.

ACT Foster Care Expo – Saturday 14 September (1.00pm-4.00pm)
The foster care agencies in Canberra are having a Foster Care Expo on Saturday 14 September. The aim of this expo is to promote foster care in the ACT. The Expo will be held at the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Centre, 245 Lady Dennam Drive, Yarramundi Reach. The keynote speaker will be Dr Sue Packer, Canberra Citizen of the Year and child advocate. Refreshments and activities for children will be available. No RSVP needed.

“Extradancer” at Hackett Community Association 50th Anniversary Birthday Party – Sunday 22 September (12.45pm-1.30pm)
Hackett’s 50th birthday will be celebrated on Saturday 21 September and Sunday 22 September. The celebrations will commence at 10.00am on the Saturday and conclude at 4.00pm on the Sunday. Dance students from Merici will participate in dance performances on Sunday 22 September from 12.45pm to 1.30pm. This is an excellent opportunity for our Merici school community to establish closer links with the community and residents of Hackett and we thank our dancers for volunteering time on their weekend to demonstrate their exceptional dance skills.

Other activities include a flag raising ceremony, choir performances, band performances, cake cutting ceremonies, face painting, folk dancing, Acroyoga workshops and performances. Samaritan House Open Day, live performers, jumping castle, reminiscing corner, sausage sizzle, BBQ and drink stalls, tea, coffee and cake stalls, craft stall, book stall, folk dancers, and much more. All welcome to attend.

John Bennett Tennis Coaching Term 4 2013
Tennis coaching for next term commences on Tuesday 8 October and concludes on Saturday 21 December. For further information please follow the link http://tiny.cc/8r4u2w.

Follow us on @MericiC, @MericiSport, @MericiCanberra.
Get on your bike for Lifecycle 2013 – Friday 18 October – Sunday 20 October
Registrations are now open for Canberra’s very own Lifecycle cycling event, promoting awareness and raising funds for much needed facilities for the Leukaemia Foundation here in the ACT. Lifecycle will occur around the shores of Lake Burley Griffin over 48 hours from 6.00pm on Friday 18 October until 6.00pm on Sunday 20 October and participants can choose to cycle at any time over this period. Lifecycle is not a race and it is designed for maximum community involvement and therefore all rider abilities. Event organisers were delighted by the support from schools in last year’s event (teachers, students and their families alike!) and are looking to build the friendly inter-school rivalry for Lifecycle 2013. To register, or for further information, go to www.life-cycle.org.au or www.leukaemia.org.au.

50th Anniversary Reunion (1959-1963) – Canberra Catholic Girls’ High School (Merici) - Friday 25 October (12.30pm)
It is 50 years since the first group of students who started in First Year in 1959 graduated in 1963. To celebrate this milestone a luncheon will be held at Merici College on Friday 25 October 2013. If you were part of that Year group at any time during the period 1959-1963 you are cordially invited to attend. Lunch will be prepared by the Merici College Hospitality students. The lunch will be held on Friday 25 October (12 noon for 12.30pm). The cost is $35.00 for a two course meal and refreshments.
RSVP 11 October to Margaret Sleigh (Hodgson) mmsleigh@tpg.com.au or Elaine Laycock (Shine) layhawk@bigpond.com. For more information and payment details please follow the link http://tiny.cc/o5yu2w.

St Clare’s College Class of 1983 Reunion (1978-1983) – Saturday 26 October (3.00pm)
St Clare’s College Class of 1983 Reunion will be held on Saturday 26 October at the East Hotel, Canberra Avenue, Kingston from 3.00pm-6.00pm. Please follow the link http://tiny.cc/n0wu2w to find more information.

Canberra Youth Music
Are you interested in playing music with other people? Canberra Youth Music (CYM) has choirs, string ensembles and orchestras for ages 4 to 25, and you are welcome to join at any time. CYM is also starting a parent/alumni orchestra in Term 4. If you are interested in joining any CYM activity please email the CYM office at: cymoffice@canberrayouthmusic.asn.au , website: www.canberrayouthmusic.asn.au In the near future the CYM have two concerts: i) Canberra Youth Music String Stream, 5.00pm Saturday 14 September at Radford College. Tickets at the door: $25 Family, $15 Adult, $10 Child. ii) Canberra Youth Orchestra presenting Saint-Seans Organ Symphony and Elgar Cello Concerto 7:30pm 19 and 23 September St Paul’s Anglican Church. Tickets at the door: $30 Family, $20 Adult, $15 Concession.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Term 3 Week 10 Term 4 Week 1)
Year 10 Italian Leichhardt Excursion – Monday 23 September
Cultural Assembly – Tuesday 24 September (11.30am-12.30pm)
Music Extravaganza – Thursday 26 September (6.00pm-7.30pm)
Term 3 Ends – Friday 27 September
Term 4 Begins – Monday 14 October
AST Testing 2nd Sitting – Tuesday 15 October – Wednesday 16 October
ASC Athletics 2013 – Thursday 17 October
Year 10 Geography Fieldtrip – Friday 18 October
Commissioning Liturgy – Friday 18 October (11.30am – 12.30pm)