

WHAT'S ON AT MERICI #fidelitas #merici60

Term 3 Weeks 6 and 7 (Monday 18 November – 1 December)



WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

2020 Staff

Merici College is preparing for 2020. During the past few years, we have had some staff in acting Coordinator positions, we congratulate those who put their names forward for the ongoing positions and welcome new staff members into promotional positions and other teaching positions. In 2020 we have several staff who are taking extended Long Service Leave and one taking Parental Leave.

Natalie Fairfax - Head of International Baccalaureate (IB)
Damien Nemeth - Head of Senior School
Corinne Preston - Global Studies Coordinator
Jen Baines - LOTE Coordinator
Karen Evans – Acting Inclusive Education Coordinator
Luke Nott - English Coordinator
Justine MacCormick - Creative and Performing Arts Coordinator
Emma Kennedy - Health/Physical Education Coordinator and Sports Co-curricular Facilitator
Andrew Withers - Acting Head of Tullow House
Andrea McNamara - IB Middle Years Programme Facilitator
Lynette Burden - Science/Sustainability Teacher
Nicola Bartasek - Music Teacher and Music Co-curricular Facilitator
Carly Johnson - Drama Teacher and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Liaison Officer

We look forward to welcoming our new staff to our community.

2019 Satisfaction Survey

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank our parents, students and staff for participating in our Satisfaction Survey. We had a high number of respondents to the 2019 Satisfaction Survey Results with 346 students, 347 parents, and 70 staff responding. [Read more](#)

Next Steps in the IB Middle Years Programme

What is the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) Personal Project?

The Personal Project is one of the most exciting parts of the IB MYP journey. It is mostly completed in Year 10 (from 2021) and involves students synthesising their learning and skills from the MYP to develop a project they are passionate about that uses a process of inquiry and reflection. Students define goals based on personal interests, they develop a set of success criteria to evaluate themselves against while reflecting on the process. [Read more](#)

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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 the 2020 school year, the shop will be open from 9.00am – 1.00pm on the following days:

Saturday 30 November
Saturday 7 December
Monday 16 December
Wednesday 22 January
Thursday 23 January
Friday 24 January
Tuesday 28 January



For all information on uniform requirements, please visit www.merici.college.

Alliance Combined Space School Expedition to NASA in 2020 – Expression of Interest

Through our partnership with Alliance of Girls' Schools Australasia and Actura, Merici College students are invited to participate in the CASE Space School 2020 expedition. 2020 dates are:

- Junior Program (Years 7-9) from 6 December – 19 December
- Senior Program (Years 10-12) from 5 December – 18 December

Please email ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au to express your daughter's interest in participating in this remarkable STEAM study experience to NASA in December 2020.

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/onlineparent> to find the November newsletter and the latest special advice regarding Phoner and voice changing apps.

YEAR 7, 8 AND 9 NEWS

Year 8 Civics and Citizenship (Tuesday 26 November)

An excursion for all Year 8 students currently studying Civics and Citizenship has been arranged for Tuesday 26 November. The excursion involves a tour and educational program at Parliament House and an educational program at the National Electoral Education Centre (Old Parliament House). Both venue visits will enrich the students' understanding of Australian democracy. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/year-8-civics> to find the permission note.

Year 7 Immunisations (Friday 29 November)

Year 7 students will receive their second dose of the Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine on Friday 29 November. Consent forms and information were completed for both doses at the beginning of the year, there is no need to sign anything new. For further information click here: <https://www.health.act.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-02/ACTHealth%20Yr7-INFO%2011-18.pdf>

PROJECT ROCKIT (Tuesday 3 December)

Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 students are invited to participate in PROJECT ROCKIT. If you think your daughter could benefit from having a stronger understanding of how to challenge cyberbullying or create social change, please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/projectrockit> to find the consent form and program information. The consent form needs to be submitted as soon as possible and before Friday 8 November.

The event is organised by PROJECT ROCKIT, Australia's youth-driven movement against bullying, hate and prejudice.

In an Australian-first, landmark partnership, PROJECT ROCKIT is teaming up with Facebook and Instagram to build the next generation of Digital Ambassadors all over Australia.

At the event your students and community will be equipped with the tools to challenge cyberbullying and create social change

When: Tuesday 3 December, 2019
Start: 9:30am arrival for a 10:00am start - Morning Tea provided
Finish: 1:15pm
Where: Belconnen High School

For all enquiries, please contact Virginia McLeod, Head of Junior School, virginia.mcleod@merici.act.edu.au.

Year 9 Leadership Day (Tuesday 10 December)

On Tuesday 10 December, all Year 9 students will be participating in a 'Step Up' Leadership Program at Merici College. This program will replace your daughter's normal timetable for the day. Full PE Uniform is to be worn on the day.

The program includes 3 sessions and uses a learning, action, reflection process throughout the day, allowing students to reflect on themselves as learners and people. Through Step Up, students are empowered with skills to build a solid foundation for their success. The sessions are:

Grit – Just do it.

- Goal setting
- Learning from famous failures
- Learning to F.O.C.U.S

Wellbeing – Mates that count

- Active Constructive Responding (ACR)
- Rising by lifting others
- Affirming others through shout-outs

The Epic Race

- An outdoor, fast-paced team event

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact Kerry McDonnell or Virginia McLeod on 6243 4100 before the excursion.

YEARS 10, 11 and 12 NEWS

Road Ready Program Year 10 (Tuesday 19 November- Wednesday 29 November)

Year 10 students who live in the ACT will be given the opportunity to complete the Road Ready program in Week 6 of this term. This will commence on Tuesday 19 November at 1.00pm and run all day on Wednesday 20 November (9am-3.30pm). Students wishing to take advantage of this opportunity will have three modules to complete outside of these hours. To be issued with a certificate, students must attend all sessions and complete the compulsory activities in the Road Ready workbook.

To assist with planning, your daughter will need to register through the link sent to them by Mrs Kennedy. Registrations will close on Monday 4 November. Please contact emma.kennedy@merici.act.edu.au if you have any questions.

Year 10 Excursion to Big Splash (Wednesday 4 December)

To celebrate the end of the school year, Year 10 are being offered the opportunity to participate in a fun day of water activities at Big Splash in Macquarie.

Transport: The girls will be transported to and from the pool via the Merici school bus and additional buses. We will leave the College at 9:15am and leave Big Splash at 2:30pm in order to make it back in time for buses home. However, should you request that your daughter travel directly to and from the venue for any reason, it is imperative that a signed note explaining the request be produced and submitted to Mrs Laura Sheehan by Friday 29 November.

Food: BYO lunch and snacks. There is a canteen open and available on the day to purchase food and snacks.

Expectations: Students are expected to wear their school PE uniform, including shorts, t-shirt, hat and runners. Students will need to bring sunscreen and a hat and re-apply sunscreen regularly throughout the day. There are shaded areas at the pool. Students are reminded that appropriate behaviour is expected at all times as they are representatives of the College.

Swim test: There will be a swim test conducted at the beginning of the day prior to the girls going on any of the slides or in the pools. This will be conducted by qualified staff at Big Splash. The girls will be issued with a wrist band signifying their level of swimming ability – proficient, non-proficient, non-swimmer. This will then determine the areas of the pool they are permitted to access.

Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/year10-big-splash> to find the permission note.

Year 10 Final Week

The end of the year is fast approaching and there are a number of exciting end of year activities planned for the Year 10 cohort. The timetable for Week 8 is planned as follows:

Year 10 Week 8 2019						
Period	1	2	3	4	5	6
Monday	Yr 10 Reflection Morning	Year 10 Reflection Morning	Advent Mass Rehearsal	Long PC	VET and Grade Check	VET and Grade Check
Tuesday	Service Day with Marist (at Merici) More details to follow					
Wednesday	Big Splash Excursion					
Thursday	Advent Mass		Awards		Year 10s finished, go home	

A letter with more information regarding the Service Day with Marist and the Big Splash excursion will be sent out next week.

Exam Timetable

Senior exams will commence on Monday 18 November and run through to Friday 22 November. An AST Practice Test will be held on Friday 22 November for all Year 11 tertiary students. Year 10 exams will be held from Thursday 14 November to Friday 15 November.

End of Semester Information for Year 12 students

The next few weeks are very important for our Year 12 students academically and with regard to the end of year celebrations. Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/year12-end-of-year-info> to find information about upcoming events and arrangements. The information includes:

- Important information regarding exams and checking of grades and scores.
- The timeline/calendar of all end of year events.

Given that these final few weeks of Year 12 are always very busy and can be quite stressful for the girls, please do not hesitate to contact us if you feel your daughter needs extra help or support.

We look forward to celebrating with you, the Graduating Class of 2019. Should you have any further enquiries regarding the end of year events please do not hesitate to contact the College.

Key Academic Dates for Years 11 and 12 students

Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/key-dates-yrs11-12> to find key dates for senior students. We ask parents to go through this information with your daughters quite closely so you are all aware of the requirements and any important cut off dates. Please contact Renee Taylor, Deputy Principal Learning (renee.taylor@merici.act.edu.au) for further information.

End of Semester Information for Year 10 students

Please follow the link <http://merici.college/go/yr10-end-of-year> to find end of Semester 2 information for Year 10 students.

MISSION AND COMMUNITY

Year 10 Christian Service Learning Week (Monday 25 November to Friday 29 November)

We are continuing our Christian Service Learning Program this year with a Christian Service Week involving all Year 10 students from Monday 25 November to Friday 29 November inclusive. Year 10 students have started receiving their 'Service Week packs' with important documents regarding their Week 6 Service Week placements. After receiving the Service Week packs, each student is required to follow instructions regarding completion of the 4-Way Agreement and return of these forms and the permission note which can be found at <http://merici.college/go/year10-cslp>. Your daughter has been asked to read through the Service Week pack with her parent/guardian and arrange a meeting with her supervisor to finalise the 4-Way Agreement and return it to the College. Students will have another briefing prior to their placements in Week 7.

If you have any questions please contact Amy Connellan, Head of Mission and Community. Ph 6243 4157 email: amy.connellan@merici.act.edu.au .

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.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS

2019 Expressive Arts Showcase

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

Opening – Tuesday 26 November 5pm-5.30pm in the new quad. RSVP essential by Friday 22 November to

ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au

Exhibition viewing – Wednesday 27-Friday 29 November 9am-3pm in the Auditorium.



iC NEWS

As we near the end of the year, the biggest task is always chasing textbooks and overdue library resources. This is especially true for the seniors and Year 10 students as they finish up very soon. Last week students were emailed a list of the textbooks they have out in their name. We are seeking your help and support to check all areas of the home, school bags and lockers to locate and return all school resources.

Another reminder about Sora by Overdrive. The digital library of eBooks and audiobooks for students of all year levels, as well as adults.

The collection is available 24/7 from any device. It can be accessed through the Merici Moodle/iC Services site or by downloading the Sora app onto your IOS or Android device.

1. Download the Sora app (free from the App store)
2. Search for a school: **ACEN Member Collection**
3. Choose our school: Merici College
4. It will redirect you back to the Merici Login
5. You can then borrow three items at any one time



Any problem, please email: ann.blakey@merici.act.edu.au
iC Staff

OTHER NEWS

75th Canberra Carols by Candlelight

School families are invited to bring a picnic dinner and join in the 75th Canberra Carols by Candlelight, to be held at Stage 88, Commonwealth Park, on Saturday, 14 December from 7pm. Organised by the Woden Valley Youth Choir, this event is the second longest-running city community carols in Australia (Melbourne is the longest). Come and enjoy a night of song and celebration. It's a great way to begin the Christmas season. Donations also collected for this year's charity. Information on Facebook ("75th Carols by Candlelight") for more details.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Term 4 Weeks 8 and 9)

Year 12 Graduation Mass and Awards Ceremony (Tuesday 3 December 6.00pm)
Mentors Celebration (Wednesday 4 December 5.00pm)
Year 10 Big Splash (Wednesday 4 December)
Year 7-10 Advent Mass (Thursday 5 December 9.30am)
Year 10 Awards Ceremony (Thursday 5 December 11.00am)
Year 12 Formal (Friday 6 December)
Year 9 Building Futures Day (Tuesday 10 December – Wednesday 11 December)
End of Term 4 (Year 7-9)