



WHAT'S ON NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Weeks 6 and 7 (Monday 10 March – Sunday 23 March)

IMPORTANT NEWS

Canteen Extended Hours

We are pleased to advise that Angie's Café will be open until 4:00pm Monday to Thursday for snacks, coffees, milkshakes, and ice creams.

Compass Access information for Parents

To assist parents in accessing Compass, please click [here](#) to find helpful information.

Carpark Drop Off Zone Wise Street

A reminder to parents and carers that they are to drop off their students at the marked drop off zones in the car park not near the stairs leading up to the New Quad and Canteen.

WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

School Photo Catchup Day (Monday 17 March)

A catchup day will be held on Monday 17 March for any student who is absent on Friday 7 March for school photos.

Please ensure that your daughter is dressed in full summer uniform. The following blazer requirements are in place:

1. Junior dress – does not require blazer to be worn
2. Junior white shirt and blue shorts – blazer to be worn
3. Senior students – blazer to be worn.

Please visit <https://www.merici.act.edu.au/my-merici/resources/uniforms> to find all uniform requirements.

A reminder that:

- Students may wear a maximum of two pairs of small sleeper/studs in the lobe of the ear only. No other items or piercings are permitted and students will be asked to remove these.

Please order your photos prior to Photo day here, <https://store.theschoolphotographer.com.au/>. Please enter the **First Code X4027SEC52M** where required on the portal to proceed to the ordering page. Alternatively, you can access the online ordering portal by scanning the QR code displayed in the flyer.

THE SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER Alliance

School Photo Time!

Head to our website to view the available packages and to place your order

Merici College
VISIT OUR WEBSITE & ENTER THIS CODE
X4027SEC52M
www.theschoolphotographer.com.au

LITERACY COORDINATOR'S NEWS

Year 7 and year 9 NAPLAN 2025

NAPLAN testing will occur at Merici on the following dates:



| | WK B Wednesday 12 March | WK B Thursday 13 March | WK B Friday 14 March | WK A Tuesday 18 March | Wk A Wednesday 19 March |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| P1 | Y9 WRITING 42m Auditorium | Y9 NUMERACY 60m Auditorium | Y9 READING 65m Auditorium | Y9 CONVENTIONS OF LANGUAGE 45m Auditorium | |
| P2 | | | | | |
| SUBJECTS AFFECTED | Languages and Religion | Electives | PE and English | Electives | |
| P3 | Y7 WRITING 42m Auditorium | Y7 NUMERACY 60m Auditorium | Y7 READING 65m Auditorium | Y7 CONVENTIONS OF LANGUAGE 45m Auditorium | CATCH UP TESTS YEAR 7 AND 9 any room |
| P4 | | | | | |
| SUBJECTS AFFECTED | Art/Design and Religion | Languages and IH | Religion/IH and Religion/Art/Design | IH and PE | |
| P5 | | | | | CATCH UP TESTS YEAR 7 AND 9 any room |
| P6 | | | | | |

Students must bring a charged laptop and their headphones for each of the sessions. We also recommend a reading book if students finish early.

Online NAPLAN tests provide more precise results and are engaging for students. The tests are tailored (or adaptive), which means that each test presents questions that may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses. This helps students remain engaged with the assessment.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

NAPLAN provides valuable information to schools and parents about literacy and numeracy achievement. It supports school improvement processes by enabling teachers to monitor student progress over time and to identify areas of strength and development. If you would like to withdraw your daughter from NAPLAN, please contact our Literacy Coordinator, Nicole Commins, on nicole.commins@merici.act.edu.au

All eligible students are encouraged and supported to participate in NAPLAN testing. Visit www.nap.edu.au to see interactive versions of the test and for more information.

YEAR 7, 8 AND 9 NEWS

Year 7 Camp (Wednesday 19 March-Friday 21 March)

Year 7 students will be attending a camp in Week 7 of this Term at The AGH Camps. The details are as follows:

Date: Wednesday 19 March to Friday 21 March.

Venue: AGH Camps

Depart: 8.00am for 8.30am departure. Students are to meet in the AUD when they arrive at the College.

Return: Approximately 3.00 pm

The Year 7 Camp is an excellent opportunity for students to develop relationships with their peers and enjoy diverse experiences outside of the formal school setting. It is expected that all students will attend the Camp.

Students will be involved in various activities at the Camp for which all equipment will be provided. The cost of the Camp is included in Term One school fees and covers all expenses including activities, accommodation, meals, and transport.

Please find more information on Compass.

YEARS 10, 11 and 12 NEWS

Year 11 and 12 Modern History and Ancient History Excursion (Tuesday 11 March)

Year 11 and 12 Modern History and Ancient History students will be attending an overnight excursion to Sydney on Tuesday 11 March. This is an opportunity for students to develop their historical skills at some of Australia's best museums and on-site learning experiences.

Please note the early departure time: students need to meet at the College front entrance by 5:45 am on Tuesday 11 March. Please remind your daughter that appropriate behaviour is expected at all times as she is a representative of the College. For more information, please access Compass.

Year 10 Geography Excursion (Thursday 13 March)

Year 10 Geography students will attend an excursion to Warilla Beach - Shellharbour, NSW to conduct fieldwork focused on the coastal environment, and the interaction of humans with it. This field trip is scheduled for Thursday 13 March 2025. The intention is to leave the College at 7.00am and to return to school by 6.00pm the same day. Students will travel by chartered coach. Students are required to wear correct Merici College PE uniform on the day, as physical activity such as walking, digging, and measuring will be undertaken as part of the fieldwork. Students should also bring an appropriate change of clothing in the event of inclement weather. Further information can be found on Compass.

Questacon Student Training Program for Students in Year 11 or 12

Merici College is seeking applications for the 2025 Questacon Student Training Program. The Student Training Program is a long running program for Year 11 and 12 students from across the ACT and local areas. The aim of the program is to support young adults to build their confidence in science communication, science demonstration and customer service skills. The students learn from Questacon's experienced science communicators, then apply their newly developed skills by engaging with visitors in the Centre.

The program offers students valuable experience in:

- science communication,
- public speaking,
- developing science activities,
- teams and customer service,
- vocational job seeking skills,
- work health and safety training,
- emergency procedures training, and
- child safety training.

Students who participate in the program will receive:

- ongoing training and support,
- certificate of completion,
- credit towards their Higher School Certificate (an 'R' unit for their Year 12 Certificate),
- recognition of their work at the Graduation Ceremony, and
- discounts from Atomic Catering and the Questacon shop.

The 2025 program will run every Thursday afternoon commencing **1 May 2025**. During the July school holidays, students are required to attend the centre to complete a total of 30 volunteer hours in the galleries. On completion of the training program, a Graduation Ceremony will be held on **Friday 1 August 2025** to celebrate the achievements and contributions of the students. All activities are held outside of school hours.

For further information and application forms please email Joanne Aboud, Merici College Science Coordinator. Applications close Wednesday 26th of March.

MISSION AND COMMUNITY NEWS

Holi Colour Run (Friday 14 March)

On Friday 14 March, Merici will be holding our very first colour run for Holi, the Hindu Festival of Colour. The event will be held after school from 4:00pm to 5:00pm and a change of clothes/covered shoes are required if you want to take part.

There is a \$5 entry fee and gold coin donations for face paint and a sausage sizzle. All money raised will be for Caritas's Project Compassion.

The permission note can be found on Compass and is required to be completed by Tuesday 11 March.

Gift of Life Walk at Merici College (Tuesday 18 March)



On Tuesday, 18 March, Merici College students and staff will participate in our DonateLife Walk (<https://www.giftoflife.asn.au/>). The purpose of the walk is to promote increased organ and tissue donation awareness. One donor can transform the lives of up to 10 people and significantly improve the lives of many more (see attached flyer). Thousands of Canberrans are expected to take part in their own walks, either individually or as a team, to show their support for this cause. Please refer to the Gift of Life Inc. website for further details (<https://donatelife.gov.au/>).

We are delighted to have Canberra FM 104.7's Rod and Gabi here as well, broadcasting their morning radio show live from the College.

The walk will take place on the Merici College Oval from 7:15 am – 8:30 am, students are encouraged to walk up to 5km. **REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL** for our walkers to enjoy a cooked breakfast at no cost after the walk. **REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL** for students to receive a free 'Gift of Life' t-shirt or hat. Students who have participated in previous years are encouraged to wear t-shirts and hats that they have already received.

Registered students will be permitted to wear Gift of Life or DonateLife Walk t-shirts and hats for the school day with their sports uniform shorts/tracksuit pants on Tuesday, 18 March. Please do not wear non-uniform items such as track pants and shorts (only school uniform allowed). If students wear the incorrect school uniform, they will **NOT** be allowed to participate in the walk.

Parents are required to complete the permission note on Compass to register before Friday 14 March.

On the day of the event, don't forget to sign in at one of our registration tables on the oval and collect your registration wristband, as well as confirm your Christian Service Hours allocation.

IB NEWS



Key Dates

This is a list of some key dates for IB Year 11 students.

| Event | Date | Information |
|--|------------------------|--|
| CAS / Extended Essay Information Session | 1 April 6:00-7:00pm | For Y11 students and parents. This online session will outline the DP requirements for two parts of the 'Core'. Formal invitation to be sent out nearer the time. |

This is a list of some key dates for IB Year 12 students.

| Event | Date | Information |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Exam information Session | 25 March 6:00-7:00pm | For Y12 students and parents. This online session will outline the requirements of IB Diploma formal exams Formal invitation to be sent out nearer the time. |
| World Religion IA draft due | 20 March | World Religion IA final submission due |
| Italian IA | 28 March | Final IA Italian Due |
| Italian Final IB Exams | 6-7 May | Italian Students will sit their official IB exams. The 5 th will be a study day. |
| World Religion Final IB Exams | 13-14 May | All Y12 DP students to sit their official IB exams. The 12 th will be a study day |

SCIENCE NEWS

Big Science Competition

The Big Science Competition is open to students in Years 7 to 10 globally. It's a 50-minute, mixed format online competition testing science knowledge, critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. Questions are set in real-life, contemporary contexts, making them relatable... and interesting!

Students in years 9-10 are invited to join in the Big Science Competition!

It will be held in Periods 1 and 2 on Wednesday 7 May (Week 12).

To register your interest, please complete this form by Thursday 17 April: <https://forms.office.com/r/iyz9uFH806>

CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS NEWS



Merici College
Presents...

LEGALLY BLONDE

The Musical™

Music & Lyrics by
Laurence O'Keefe & Nell Benjamin

Book by
Heather Hach

Based on the novel by Amanda Brown
and the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture

Original Production by Hal Luftig, FoxTheatricals, Dori Berinstein, James L. Nederlander, Independent Presenters Network, Roy Furman, Amanda Lipitz, Broadway Asia, Barbara Whitman, FWPM Group, Ruth Hendel, Cheryl Wiesenfeld, Hal Goldberg, David Binder, James D. Stern, Douglas L. Meyer, Stewart F. Lane, Bonnie Comley, Robert G. Bartner, Michael A. Jenkins, Albert Nocciolino and Warren Trepp; Produced in association with MGM Onstage, Darcie Denkert & Dean Stolber

Production Team
Merici College Creative & Performing Arts Faculty

Shows
Thursday 24th July ~ 7pm
Friday 25th July ~ 7pm
Saturday 26th July ~ 2pm & 7pm
Sunday 27th July ~ 2pm

Venue
Merici College Auditorium | Wise Street, Braddon ACT



Tickets
Adults ~ \$18
Students ~ \$16
Child (under 12) ~ \$14
Seniors ~ \$12
Family (2 adults & 2 students/children) ~ \$55




Legally Blonde JR. is presented through special arrangement with & all authorised materials are supplied by Music Theatre International, New York, NY
(212) 541-4684 mtishows.com

www.merici.act.edu.au


Years 7 – 9 Audition Opportunity – Marist College Buggy Malone


Marist College Canberra has invited Merici girls to audition for their 2025 musical production of *Bugsy Malone*! This is another fantastic opportunity for those of you interested in musical theatre to again perform alongside boys from Marist in a full-length production.

Key Details:


 *Bugsy Malone* is open to students in Years 7-9 as part of Marist's Little Brothers Production.

 Auditions for Merici girls will be held in Week 6 (Term 1) at Marist College.

 Rehearsals will begin in Term 2 and take place Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 4:00–5:30 pm (with some flexibility depending on roles).

 Performances will be held September 23-25, 2025 (Term 3, Week 10).

While this is a great opportunity, please keep in mind that we are currently in rehearsals for Merici's own 2025 College Production, so consider your availability before committing. If you are currently cast in Legally Blonde the Musical JR, this must take priority!

If you're interested in auditioning, you can find more details, including the audition pack and sign-up form, at the link:  [Bugsy Malone Audition Information](https://sites.google.com/mcc.act.edu.au/bugsy-malone-2025/audition-information/boys-audition-process)

<https://sites.google.com/mcc.act.edu.au/bugsy-malone-2025/audition-information/boys-audition-process>

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Isabella Bartholomeusz at Marist - isabellabartholomeusz@mcc.act.edu.au.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Unleash your creativity and develop an entrepreneurial mindset! Merici College, in partnership with Edii (<https://www.edii.com.au/>) invite students to participate in the Maker2Market Program. Register now and receive a \$100 discount proudly provided by Merici College.

Workshops: March 20, 27, April 3, 10 at Merici College from 3.30pm-5.30pm each week. Market Day will be held at the Old Bus Depot Markets, Kingston on April 13 from 9am-2.30pm. Book now at www.edii.com.au. Please use the Merici College link at the checkout to receive \$100 discount. 25 places in the program for students in Years 7 -12.

For more information, please contact Stephanie Spiller on email stephanie.spiller@merici.act.edu.au.




BUSINESS TASTER EXPERIENCE

Real-world business learning experience for young creatives!

Unleash your creativity and develop an entrepreneurial mindset! Learn to problem-solve, identify your ideal customer, prototype and market test your ideas. Then, create your logo and handmade products and earn real money selling at Old Bus Depot Markets!

MERICI COLLEGE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Workshop: March 20, 27, April 3, 10 @ Merici College, Braddon, from 3.30pm-5.30pm ea wk.

Market Day @ Old Bus Depot Markets, Kingston on April 13 from 9am - 2.30pm.

BOOK NOW: [WWW.EDII.COM.AU](https://www.edii.com.au)

Please use Merici College link at checkout to receive \$100 discount proudly provided by Merici College for 25 places in the program for students in years 7-12 enrolled in the College.



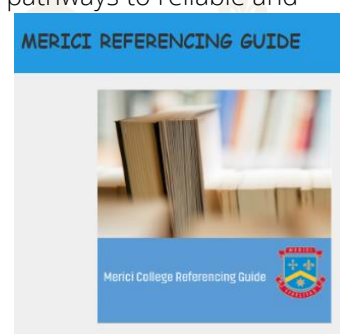
iC NEWS

These two weeks bring us peak assessment time. The Information Centre (iC) plays a big role in assisting and delivering key elements to students to help assist in the final task produced, including the skill development in notetaking, researching and referencing.

We have been curating resources that are task specific, both the physical books and digital resources. These can be found as a [LearnPath](#) on SEQTA home which are part of Oliver. These are pathways to reliable and relevant digital information, including the databases available to all students.

At Year 11 Conference, the seniors had an information session about being an 'ethical researcher' how to show Academic Integrity in the work they produce. This has been followed up with referencing specifics in Senior English. In contrast we have introduced the Year 7's to the Referencing Table, as we begin the skill development of referencing.

As IB learners we are Principled learners "We act with integrity and honesty... We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences" (IBO, 2019). This all comes down to acknowledging our sources by using intext referencing and producing a Reference list. Merici College has its [own Referencing Guide](#), based on Harvard, this is also available through LearnPath on SEQTA.



By showing our critical thinking, using the resources we have available to us and taking the time to read, note take and talking to others about what we have learned we will be ethical researchers who display Academic Integrity in our learning.

Yours in research,

iC Staff

OTHER NEWS

50th Reunion - Class of 1975

A 50-year reunion will be held for students from Catholic Girls High School Braddon and Daramalan College who finished Year 12 in 1975 (including those from that group who finished before Year 12).

Date: Saturday 18 October 2025

Venue: Ainslie Football Club, Canberra

Please visit <https://merici.news/news/50th-reunion-class-of-1975/> for more details.

Canberra Kids Triathlon (23 March 2025)

CANBERRA KIDS TRIATHLON

REGISTER HERE OR

AIS 7:00 - 11:00 a.m. 23 March 7-12

AUS TRIATHLON

New program at Pegasus ACT

Pegasus has been providing Riding for the Disabled Association of Australia program to people with disability in the Canberra region for 50 years. Pegasus is very excited to introduce a new program called **Horses Helping Humans™**. Pegasus holds the ACT license for **Horses Helping Humans™** program and we have certified facilitators to deliver this Equine Assisted Life Skills program. The goal of the program focusses on developing skills that they can apply in their everyday life such as awareness of body language, self-confidence, emotional regulation, communication skills and interpersonal skills.



Horses Helping Humans™ is an internationally recognised, interactive and award-winning program which teaches participants the basics of natural horsemanship through activities and exercises based on trust and mutual respect between the participant and the horse.

It uses four horse characters, a unique horse-centric adaptation of Hippocrates' Four Temperaments, to demonstrate how we each have different ways that we present ourselves in the world and how to recognise these traits in others.

The program, has been developed for youth with additional social or emotional needs; youth at risk and disadvantaged youth. We could also offer workshops for educators, teachers and social workers focused on promoting communication and team building skills.

It is a 4 week groundwork program where participants learn to work and connect with horses on the ground. No riding is offered under this program. The total cost to each participant is \$600.00. Currently we are running 1 ½ hour small group sessions over a period of 4 consecutive weeks during school term. Sessions are available Mondays and Fridays.

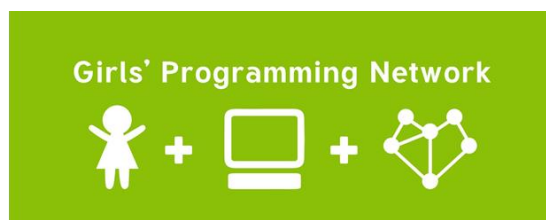
*Founded and developed by Sue Spence Communications. More information about Sue and her program can be found at <https://www.horseshelpinghumansaustralia.com/>

To find out more and how you can enrol contact programs@pegasusact.com.au or telephone (02) 6254 9190.

Girls' Programming Network

What is GPN?

- The Girls' Programming Network is a workshop series for girls in grades 6-12.
- It's a community of women and girls interested in computer science, programming, and IT.
- Workshops are led by GPN tutors and local women from industry, academia, and government.
- Tutors will provide both basic and advanced guidance.
- The Australian Signals Directorate has a long-standing relationship with the GPN and supports the Canberra node of this fantastic program.
- Workshops are free, and no prior coding experience is required.
- Lunch, snacks, and computers are provided.



Registration details:

Event: The event is scheduled for Sunday, 23 March 2025.

Opens: 24 February at 10 AM

Closes: 8 March at 5 PM.

We look forward to seeing your students excelling in this amazing workshop.

[Register GPN Canberra Term 1](#)