



# WHAT'S ON NEWSLETTER

Term 2 Weeks 4 and 5 (Monday 20 May – Sunday 2 June)

## IMPORTANT NEWS

### Open Day Thanks!

We would like to acknowledge the wonderful contribution made by students which, in no small part, contributed to the success of our Open Day, Be Merici Girl Days and Talk and Tours. Over 300 students participated in these activities. The students were all wonderful ambassadors for our school and we have received excellent feedback from all of our visitors on their exceptional skills in conducting school tours, participating in Science, Mathematics, Food Technology, Art and Textiles classroom activities, presenting dance, music, vocal and drama information. In particular our visitors commented on how our students spoke about Merici life with such pride and enthusiasm.



We would like to extend our special thanks and appreciation to our Maintenance, Canteen and Hospitality staff who worked tirelessly to prepare for our Open Day, and our teachers who coordinated and supervised activities in order to present a small snapshot of the exceptional work they do every day. Their enthusiasm for teaching and learning and their dedication to the school is greatly appreciated.

### 2025 Enrolment Process

Please note that Mrs Masters has commenced enrolment interviews for 2025. If you are interested in submitting an enrolment application, please follow the link <https://www.merici.act.edu.au/enrolment>. Please ensure that all supporting documentation is uploaded as required. Documentation includes:

- Birth certificate (not commemorative) or passport.
- Certificate of Baptism (if applicable).
- **Last report from previous school (This documentation is required for all applications at Merici College.)**
- Family Law, Personal Protection Order or Other Relevant Court Orders (if applicable)
- Visa grant notice for permanent and temporary visa-holders (if applicable) – for both student and parent(s) / legal guardian(s)
- Any medical reports and/or other assessment reports for students with additional learning needs (if applicable).

If your daughter is currently attending Year 6 at one of our Catholic Education (CE) primary schools, please ensure that the information entered on the College enrolment application is the same as the information you have previously provided when enrolling your daughter at their primary school. (For example, residential address, email, telephone number).

After your application is submitted, please contact Narelle Patrick, Enrolments Officer, on telephone 62434150 or email [narelle.patrick@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:narelle.patrick@merici.act.edu.au). Narelle will then schedule an interview for your family to meet with Mrs Masters at a mutually convenient time.

## Year 11 2025 - Senior College at Merici

Year 10 parents and students, please note that it is **not** necessary to re-enrol your daughter Year 11 at Merici. Your daughter's enrolment will automatically continue.

## WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### Reconciliation Week (Monday 27 May – Sunday 2 June)

May 27<sup>th</sup> marks the beginning of Reconciliation Week. The Narragunnawali group have organised some activities for the week and encourage students to take part in them to learn more about the importance of the week and what the community can do to foster Reconciliation.

Tuesday 28 May: Reconciliation Action Plan meeting open to all students in the CRLC at lunch time. Discuss what actions we can take at the school to learn about First Nations histories and cultures. Snacks provided!

Wednesday 29 May: Morning PC quiz

Thursday 30 May: Contribute to the 2024 Reconciliation art canvas!

### St Angela Merici Feast Day (Friday 31 May)

On Friday 31 May, our community will celebrate St Angela Merici Day, an important event on the school calendar to gather together to honour the Feast Day of Saint Angela Merici. The day not only recognises our Patron Saint, Angela Merici but all of our Founding Congregations and our associated College Houses.

We begin our celebrations with Mass and Christian Service Awards ceremony which will commence at 10.00am in the Auditorium. The Mass and awards ceremony will be livestreamed and can be viewed here, <https://merici.college/go/livestream>. Please click [here](#) to find the program for the day.

Students are required to **wear full school uniform** to school for Mass. Students are invited to change clothes after Mass and wear casual clothes in House colours. Please note 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 pyjamas or onesies, no 'skins' or tights to be worn, no inappropriate slogans or symbols on clothing or accessories, do not wear ugg boots, thongs or high-heeled shoes.

Normal attendance processes apply for the day including the regular sign out procedure whereby a parent/guardian must come in to collect and approve the absence.

### Cashless Stalls and Entertainment

This year St Angela Merici Day will operate as a token only event. What does this mean and what do you have to do?

1. What does this mean?

This means that tokens will take the place of cash on the day. Tokens for all activities and stalls will be pre-sold. Each token is worth \$1:00 and the cost of each activity and/or food item is illustrated in the program [here](#). For example, a sausage and bread will cost \$3 – or **three tokens**. On St Angela Merici Day, we will only accept tokens – not cash for stalls and entertainment.

Please note that the canteen will be open for limited recess and lunch service on the day. Students can purchase recess/lunch items using their student card. A sausage sizzle will also be available as part of the afternoon House activities – token purchases only.

## 2. What do you have to do?

**At recess and lunch** on the following days, students will be able to purchase tokens from a stall set up near the canteen. Students will only be able to pay for these tokens using cash or EFTPOS, not their student cards. We will create a record of your daughter's payment and allocate that many tokens to them. If, for example, \$20 worth of tokens are purchased, 20 tokens will be allocated to your daughter during PC on the morning of St Angela Merici Day itself. The days will be:

- Wednesday-Friday 22/23/24 May
- Tuesday and Wednesday 28/29 May

Further points to note:

- All token purchases should be viewed as a donation to the House charities. There will be no refunds for unused tokens;
- At the end of the activities, students can write their name on any unused tokens and we will conduct a raffle the following week for 3-4 prizes (such as a Hoyts voucher).

We highly recommend pre-purchasing tokens. If you have any queries, please feel free to contact Rohan Langford, Head of Student Wellbeing on [rohan.langford@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:rohan.langford@merici.act.edu.au)

## Merici College 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ball (Saturday 1 June)

All members of our community, past and present students, staff and friends, are invited to celebrate our College's 65th Anniversary at a special Anniversary Ball.

The Ball will be held at the Canberra Southern Cross Club, Woden in Corinna Room 1 with arrivals at 6pm and dinner served from 6.30pm. Tickets: <https://events.humanitix.com/merici-college-65th-anniversary-ball>

Cost: \$100 per head (Excludes Drinks)

Complimentary drink on arrival

3 Course Meal (Alternate Servings)

Cash/No-Host Bar Available

Entertainment: The Baker Boys

Dress: Formal

A school tour will be held at 10:00am on Saturday 1 June for ex-students. No registration required.

## Claim the Date: Bridge Benefit Dinner (Saturday 24 August)

Our Hospitality student will be holding a Bridge Benefit Fundraising Dinner on Saturday, 24 August 2024 in the Bridge Restaurant commencing at 6.00pm for a 6.30pm start. This event is an annual student-led initiative that has been held for many years.

This year, the students have decided that all proceeds will be donated to the Ricky Stuart Foundation which was created in 2011 with a clear mission to provide a voice for families and individuals with autism nationally.

Ricky believes passionately in keeping families together, by ensuring that every individual with autism and their family has access to state-of-the-art respite facilities and best practice housing models.

We are seeking donations from our community to be sold at our Bridge Benefit Dinner as part of our 'silent auction'. We would welcome gift vouchers, goods, services, any items that can be added to hampers (such as quality products, jams, kitchen items, picnic, BBQ items, wine, chocolates etc.). In appreciation of your support, your business will be thanked at the event and your logo will be displayed on our school website and social media networks. Cash donations are also welcome. All funds raised at the dinner will be donated to the Ricky Stuart Foundation.

Please email Ros Parisi at [ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au), or telephone 6243 4178 with the details of your donations, business logo and/or any queries you may have.

## YEAR 7, 8 AND 9 NEWS

### Year 9 Reflection Day (Thursday 23 May)

The Year 9 Spirituality Day is a one-day session on campus and will be held on Thursday 23 May. The day is aimed at motivating students to strengthen their faith through identifying their connection with both a loving God and their relationships with others. The day will involve a series of engaging activities, and reflection exercises.

Lunch (sausage sizzle) will be provided on the day. Students will provide their own morning tea.

Students will be asked to go to the PC class in the morning to have their names marked off and then they will proceed to the Auditorium for the remainder of the school day.

All students are required to attend and wear full PE uniform.

## YEARS 10, 11 and 12 NEWS

### Senior Scholarship Applications now open

Merici College has a range of scholarships available to support the talents and educational achievements of our girls. We currently have scholarships available for Year 7 students, Year 12 Vocational Education and Training Scholarship for current Year 11 students, and Scholarships for current Year 10 Students and future Year 11/12 Students.

**Formal Letter of Application:** Students are to submit their application of 500 words or less which outlines their achievements in the scholarship categories, nominating a category/ies as appropriate.

Applications due: 1 July

Addressed to: The Principal, Merici College, Wise Street, Braddon, ACT, 2612

Announcement: Term 3

To find out more, please visit <https://merici.college/scholarships>.

## IB NEWS



### Personal Project

Year 10 students submitted a draft Part A of their Personal Project report in Week 2 (Wednesday 8 May), and they should have sought feedback from their supervisor as part of their second formal meeting in Week 3.

Students should now be thinking about finalising their Personal Project product. The product deadline is Wednesday 22 May (Week 4).

Drop-in sessions will continue at lunch on Fridays (Week B), but students can also find Erin Barry in the Science staffroom on Fridays in week A.

## HEAD OF MISSION AND COMMUNITY

### Push-Up Challenge 2024

Our names are Holly and Jess, and we are your student ambassadors for the Push Up Challenge in 2024! Registrations are open and were back again to promote mental health at Merici and have fun while doing it!

We're getting involved in The Push-Up Challenge from 5-28 June 2024 and would love you to join us.



The Challenge is to complete 3,249 push-ups (or 1,625 if you choose the half target) in 24 days to raise awareness and funds for mental health. This represents the 3,249 people who died by suicide in Australia in 2022 (the most recent stats), which is why we want to push for better, and hope you will too.

Sound like too many push-ups? No worries, you can do the half target and substitute push-ups for alternative exercises, like squats and sit-ups.

It's free to take part and there's an app where you get daily targets and mental health facts, track your progress, and can check out our collective stats.

We have created a community, which is a group of Teams all participating in The Push-Up Challenge and pushing together. By joining our community as part of a team which are done by your PC's, we'll be able to track our collective stats, as well as see our own personal leader board for Teams and individuals.

To join us, join your PC through our Community page:

<https://www.thepushupchallenge.com.au/fundraisers/MericiCollege>.

We hope you and your crew can join us in the push for better mental health!

We'll be talking more about this at assembly's and even some competitions with prizes up for grabs! We would love to see all of you registered this year! Head to The Push-Up Challenge website or flick me or Jess a message if you have any questions.

Holly & Jess

## LANGUAGES NEWS

### Study Tour to France in April 2025 Expression of Interest Meeting – Tuesday 21 May

An expression of interest meeting has been organised for a proposed Study Tour to France in April 2025, for students who are studying French and who are currently in Years 9 – 11. At this meeting you will be given a draft itinerary of the Tour, other relevant information, draft costings and there will be opportunities for Questions and Answers.

What: Expression of Interest Parent/Student meeting for a Study Tour to France in April 2025

When: Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> May in the CRLC at 6pm

We hope to see many students and parents there!

## CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

A call out to our community for unwanted *briefcases* needed for props in this year's Wakakirri performance. Please drop off at the front office. Your donation would be greatly appreciated.

## DEFENCE NEWS

Our ANZAC Assembly was held in week one and was a significant day in our school calendar. I personally enjoyed meeting new and seeing familiar faces from our Defence families for this commemorative event. Thank you to our guest speaker Registrar of Military Justice, Group Captain April Rose for her time and personal reflections of ANZAC Day. Thank you to our guests and to our incredible students who volunteered their time to run the assembly.

Thank you to the Merici College students who represented us all by marching and presenting a wreath at the Queanbeyan RSL ANZAC Day March.

Merici College 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ball Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June from 6pm. If you are interested in joining a table with other Merici College Defence parents or guardians please purchase tickets. You can add Defence to the comments and/or let Ros Parisi [Ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:Ros.parisi@merici.act.edu.au) know for your table allocation.

*Kate Friend, Defence School Mentor*

### Upcoming Defence Events

#### Week 4

Tuesday 21 May Defence Drop In lunchtime in Room 222. BYO lunch, snacks provided.

#### Week 5

Tuesday 28 May Pizza Party, OYC at lunchtime. Please RSVP to [kate.friend@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:kate.friend@merici.act.edu.au) and include any dietary requirements by 24 May.

The Defence Office is a welcome space for any Defence students. You are welcome to drop in at recess or lunch, except Wednesdays. If the door is opened please come in and say hello.

## OTHER NEWS

### ACT Sports Bulletin #7 2024

Please click [here](#) to find the latest School Sport ACT bulletin to keep our community up-to-date on school sport events in the ACT.